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(ESTABLISHED 1881)

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TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 1919.

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SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

TRIBUTE TO A SINGAPORE UNOFFICIAL.

Singapore, April 1.

At a meeting of the Legislative Council, H. E. the Governor and the Unofficial members paid a tribute to the Hon. Mr. Darbyshire, head of Messrs. Paterson and Simons, who was for many years associated with the Chamber of Commerce and member of the Council. Mr. Darbyshire recently left the Colony.

SHANGHAI GERMAN EMBARK.

Shanghai, April 1.

The Germans embark to-day. The Antiochus sails with 375 on Thursday.

A SINGAPORE DEATH.

Singapore, April 1.

The death has occurred of Mr. Gibson McNeill, mechanical engineer to the Harbour Board.

SHANGHAI LIBEL SUIT.

Shanghai, March 31.

The libel suit by Mr. J. I. Ezra against Mr. Merriman, resulting from the baseball scandal, is called to come up on Tuesday.

THE GERMAN EXEMPTIONS.

Shanghai, March 31.

The North China Daily News says that the German doctors were exempted from repatriation at the instance of the American and Portuguese Legations.

THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC.

Shanghai, March 31.

The outbreak of influenza is steadily slackening.

SINGAPORE GERMAN ESCAPES.

Singapore, March 31.

A German prisoner of war named Peter Havewith has escaped from the internment camp at Tanjong.

SULTAN OF JOHORE HONORED.

Singapore, March 31.

There was a brilliant gathering at Johore on Saturday when His Excellency the Governor invested His Highness the Sultan of Johore with the Order of Knight of the British Empire. The Malay guards attended; also spearmen and yellow umbrella bearers. The Johore troops also paraded and fired Royal salutes.

NEWS BY WIRELESS.

"Daily Bulletin" Service.

U. S. TRADE WITH OCEANIA.

Washington, March 31.

The unusual growth of trade between the United States and Oceania is shown in the report of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. During the first eight months of the fiscal year the Oceania trade was \$513,588,769, and Oceania sold to the United States \$139,871,602. Japan took \$191,632,128 worth of American goods in eight months, more than double that of the same period in the previous year.—American Wireless.

ENEMY ALLIES IN U. S.

Washington, March 31.

The Attorney-General has reported that of 4,000 enemy aliens interned during the war parole would be granted to 600 of the harmless class, that the others would be repatriated, and 900 dangerous persons would be held indefinitely.—American Wireless.

U. S. FORCE IN NORTH RUSSIA.

Washington, March 31.

Brig-General W. P. Richardson, U. S. Army, who is to be given command of the American Expeditionary force in Northern Russia, will leave in a few days with a fair-sized detachment of Engineers.—American Wireless.

BOUNDARIES QUESTION.

Paris, March 31.

M. Clemenceau, Signor Orlando, Baron Makino, General Smuts, and Colonel House composed the Peace Conference Committee to discuss the boundary question.—American Wireless.

AMENDMENTS TO COVENANT.

Paris, March 31.

The American Monroe Doctrine and the Japanese racial discrimination amendments were not included in the Covenant of the League of Nations as sent to the Drafting Committee of the Peace Conference or before the Supreme War Council on Friday.—American Wireless.

JAPAN NOT REPRESENTED.

Paris, March 31.

Japan was not given representation in the new Council because the Japanese Delegation does not include the Foreign Ministry.—American Wireless.

U. S. VICTORY LOAN.

Washington, March 31.

The payments to the Victory Loan are the most liberal ever offered by the Government. Deferred payments will be made over an extended period of six months, May-Nov. 11, and 10 per cent. is upon application and another 10 per cent. before July 15.—American Wireless.

U. S. CREDITS TO ALLIES.

Washington, March 31.

The Secretary of the Treasury has announced that France has given a credit of \$100,000,000, and Greece \$3,800,000, making a total of \$2,647,471,000; Greece, \$434,129,000; and to all allies, \$9,085,269,000.—American Wireless.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE MILITARY SERVICE BILL.

MEN LIABLE FOR SERVICE IN RUSSIA.

London, March 27.

In the House of Commons, the Military Service Bill passed the report stage unamended. The proposal to limit the operation of the Bill up to December 31, 1919, instead of April 30, 1920, was rejected by 232 votes to 70.

Another amendment, excluding liability for service in Russia from the scope of the Bill, was defeated by 231 votes to 48.

Mr. Churchill, declining to accept this amendment, said the Government did not intend raising a large conscript Army for Russia. The general question of the Russian policy was not a question for the British Government. It was a matter to which the League of Nations or the league of victorious nations must address itself.

RED CROSS GIFT.

HONGKONG THANKED.

The Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Hon. Secretary of the War Charities Committee, forwards us the following:—

British Red Cross Society, 83, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1. 12th February, 1919.

Dear Sir,

I have to thank you for your letter of the 20th December last enclosing draft value £4,150, being a further contribution to our funds from subscribers to the Hongkong War Charities Fund, official receipt for which I beg to enclose herewith.

I am desired by the Joint War Committee once again to express to you, and to ask you to be so good as to convey to the donors, in whatever manner you consider proper, the warm and sincere thanks of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John for the generous and sympathetic help we thus receive in our work for the sick and wounded.

Please permit me, on behalf of my Committee, to express to you and to the members of your Committee our deep and profound gratitude for the constant and sustained help you have given us during the period of the war. It is only by the help of generous supporters like you and your colleagues that we were able to publish in The Times on New Year's Day a letter (copy of which I enclose herewith) stating that it was no longer necessary for us to appeal for donations or for fresh collections to be made, and that we desired such collections as are actually in progress to be wound up and the proceeds remitted to us as soon as this can be done. It is a great satisfaction to the Finance Committee that they either have in hand or will shortly receive sums which they estimate as sufficient to meet all our liabilities.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) ROBT A. HUISSON, Chairman of Finance Committee H. C. Sandford, Esq., Hon. Treasurer, Hongkong War Charities Fund, c/o Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Hongkong.

DAY BY DAY.

Regarding the return of the Hongkong Military Service recruits, information has now been received from Army Headquarters in India, as under:—

"Private Hughes now desires return to Hongkong and is being included in the party to be returned."

From an announcement in our columns, it will be noticed that the P. and O. British India and Apar lines of steamships have been transferred to the agency of Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co. Mr. E. V. D. Farr, who has heretofore been managing the affairs of the P. and O. Company, becomes a partner of Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co., who will have offices as well in Shanghai. The firm has branches in Bombay and Calcutta. To signify the change locally, the house flags of Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co. and the P. and O. were to-day flown at the P. and O. wharf, with the Union Jack on top.

TO-DAY'S CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

(With Tse Yat Po Service.)

Peking, March 31.

A mandate to-day urges the re-opening of the Shanghai Conference. Peking has received information that Chan King-min is still recruiting soldiers at Changchow.

Shanghai, March 31.

The General Staff has approached the Communication Department requesting the Commanders at Kalgan and Urga to use commercial automobiles for dispatching troops to guard the Mongolian frontier.

A certain Foreign Minister called on the Foreign Department saying he had heard rumours that some foreign influence is helping Mongolian independence, and asked that proof should be secured as to which foreign country is involved.

The Southern delegates, meeting by themselves on the 29th, decided that they could not confer and fight at the same time: they must not re-open the Conference until fighting is stopped; secondly, Peking must prove that it will respect the Conference's decisions.

VOLLEY BALL.

HONGKONG V. CANTON.

Hongkong and Canton will play the second inter-port match in volley ball at Queen's College on Wednesday, the 2nd April, at 3.30 p.m. Mr. F. M. Mohler, of the Chinese Y.M.C.A., will officiate as the referee. The following players will represent Hongkong:—

- 1st line:—Kwok U Leung (Q.C.), Chin Kwong Yan (S.P.C.), Vice Capt. Chan Ki Yan (S.C.), Li Yin Leung (S.C.).
 - 2nd line:—Wong Hin Wai (S.P.C.), Ho Ka Lau (S.P.C.), Ko Sik Wai (Q.C.), Capt. Ho Chak Man (S.P.C.).
 - 3rd line:—Ko Chi To (Q.C.), Chiu Tsun Chiu (S.P.C.), Hung Kam Sang (Q.C.), Chau Wing Kwong (Q.C.).
 - 4th line:—Leung Kit Choi (Q.C.), Loh Kam Yan (S.P.C.), Ma Hong Mai (S.C.), Chin Lai Yung (S.P.C.).
- Reserves:—U. Wing Chan (S.P.C.), Wong Tai Kwan (Q.C.), Yeung Ming Fai (Q.C.), S.P.C.—St. Paul's College, S.C.—South China Athletic Association.

THE ADMIRAL LINE.

FOUR MORE STEAMERS.

The Admiral Line are in receipt of advice that four additional U. S. Shipping Board steamers have been assigned to them for operation in the Trans-Pacific trade. These steamers are the "West Hall," "West Munham," "Quittacas," and "West Remus" of 8,800 tons, 7,900 tons, 8,500 tons and 8,800 tons deadweight cargo capacity respectively. These assignments make a total of six large steamers that the Admiral Line are now operating in the Trans-Pacific trade for the U. S. Shipping Board, in addition to seven of their own vessels in this service.

HONGKONG HOUSING QUESTION.

III.—Possible Remedial Measures continued.

(Special to the "Telegraph.")

The proposals already enumerated would provide for public servants and the employees of big firms, and give the rest of the community reasonably rented houses with a degree of security. But that is not all that is wanted by many a good citizen; he likes to think of owning his own house. To most people that is but an unattainable ambition, but for the industrious and careful living it need not be so. It is high time that there were some sound Building Societies here, whereby the individual of moderate means might become his own landlord, either by the Society loan and mortgage method, or the rent-purchase system. Such societies need strong financial backing, which should be forthcoming both from the Government and private firms—all firms, not only the wealthier ones. Such institutions are a direct incentive to thrift of the most desirable kind, and produce citizens improved by genuine self-respect and honest pride. Following a recommendation of the Singapore Housing Commission, the Straits Government has already voted a useful sum (not a large one, but no doubt further votes will be made as the demand arises) for the purpose of granting loans to approved Public Utility Societies. No such Society has as yet been formed, but one fancies that the idea is under serious consideration, for many influential people down south have been brought to take a lively interest in housing reform.

TO MAKE BUILDING CHEAPER.

A great step forward will be made if something can be done to make the building of new houses by the private speculator possible, by cheapening materials. That may read like the expression of a pious hope, but it is more. The thing can be done. Bricks and timber, the two chief requisites of construction, should admittedly be dearer on account of the war, but not so dear as they have been. The profiteering rings have been allowed to operate without restraint. They could very easily be broken by the opening of public brickyards and sawmills. Such activities would be no undue extension of the activities of the Public Works Department. Alternatively, a public organisation of some kind might step in—not a Building Society, perhaps, but say a Co-operative Society or some such body. In either case, charging a reasonable price for the output, there would be a good profit which could be applied to some useful public purpose.

THE VIRTUES OF STANDARDISATION.

It is scarcely realised to what an extent standardisation can cheapen building construction. In houses erected as they are now, doors and door-frames and window frames, for instance, are fitted in all sorts of odd sizes and designs, as often as not of unseasoned wood which warps within a few months, and in most cases carpentered on the spot with a sinful waste of time and matter to secure (by the all-powerful lever of cheapness) the general adoption of several designs of doors and door-frames and window-frames for separate types of houses. Several large factories, equipped with modern machinery and time-saving appliances, with skilled supervision of the kinds and conditions of timber used, could do all this work, and at one stroke effect a big saving in the cost of a new house would be effected. Of course, the Chinese carpenters' guilds might kick; but the machines have been known to kick on the introduction of labour-saving agricultural machines, but the machines have been introduced just the same. A big saving in the cost of a new house would be effected. Of course, the Chinese carpenters' guilds might kick; but the machines have been known to kick on the introduction of labour-saving agricultural machines, but the machines have been introduced just the same. A big saving in the cost of a new house would be effected.

There should also be standardisation of plans, of a variety sufficient to suit all reasonable tastes and conveniences and obviate a monotony of aspect. In this case the architects would kick. Whatever is done someone will kick. At present it is the public that is kicking, and if they are wise they will keep on kicking until No. 10, Wanchow, Bother takes notice.

The architects—the good architects, that is—need not worry. There will always be ample work for them in a developing Colony like this.

The advantages of standardised plans, or type plans, as they are more generally called, are clear. At the very beginning they are cheap, being sold officially at little more than a nominal charge. Next, they convey a guarantee of a good house, for the designs are selected by competition for very handsome prizes. And there is no risk of irksome and expensive delay consequent on successive amendments of plans to meet official requirements—mostly very proper requirements. Further, the estimating contractor knows exactly where he is, and can quote safely, without adding a few hundreds, or a thousand or two dollars, as "makeweight" against the uncertainties attendant on "original" plans and specifications.

All these things, be it insisted, mean more cheaply-built houses, and therefore lower rents.

Another matter for consideration is the growing favour being accorded the ferro-concrete type of building. One cannot off hand speak as to comparative first costs, but the ferro-concrete building is especially clean and easy to keep clean, calls for but an insignificant allowance for depreciation, has an indefinite life, and is almost fireproof (and is therefore more cheaply insured). These items seem to spell economy in the long run, even if first costs are higher.

DEVELOPMENT OF SUBURBS.

A big item in the cost of a house in or very near town is the purchase price of the site, often as much as the building estimate itself. That is why, subject to special conditions, rents always become progressively smaller from town towards and into the suburbs. In any case, the town is not the place for dwelling-houses. They occupy sites which would be better occupied by business premises, and they are partly responsible for the congestion to be found in the business quarters of many cities, with unhealthy conditions for the persons working in those premises. It is a duty of the Government of any place to open up suburbs and supply every possible convenience for the population moving into them.

In this Colony, Kowloon is the one obvious residential suburb, easy of development, and with ample room for unlimited expansion. But there is the daily crossing of the harbour, which is regarded by many people as a great discomfort and inconvenience, and of course is in the typhoon season always liable to closure. The writer is unable to discuss the feasibility of the bridge and tunnel proposals which have been made from time to time, and can only make a very tentative suggestion that consideration might be given to the laying of a causeway, with "inter-railways" for shipping facilities, such as it has been decided to construct across the Johore Straits. Such a causeway could carry a double railway track, a road for general vehicular traffic, and a path for pedestrians. It may, however, be an impossible proposition. Only skilled engineers could pronounce upon that. In any case, the Admiralty might be asked to consider the possibility of a causeway.

To-Day's Exchange.

The closing rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 3s. 3.3-16d.

The Weather.

Forecast:—rain. Barometer—29.99. Temperature 2 p.m.—59. Humidity 2 p.m.—83.

F. 5.

suburbs should be created on the island itself, and admittedly, the island being such as it is, there are very great difficulties to face.

THE PROBLEM OF COMMUNICATIONS.

The problem is: how to make distant parts of the island easily accessible. That problem should not be "given up." Its solution should be reasonably sought. We have one hill railway on the island, and it pays, though it does not serve a thickly populated area (sight-seeing, of course, supply much of the revenue.) Why not several hill railways? The new suburbs created, served by the new hill railways, might of themselves ensure financial success; there might even be a small addition to the rents in such suburbs to go towards the upkeep of the railways, guaranteeing a certain fixed income (residents of the suburbs holding "season" tickets) with casual passengers, inevitably numerous, to make up the revenue.

To suburbs on the lower levels, communications much better than those existing would have to be provided, whether by the great extension and improvement of the tramway system, or by a light railway or motor bus service.

The writer does not propose to say exactly where new suburbs could best be sited down, whether the Lung Shue Tunnel scheme is a practical or a sensible idea, and so on. These are matters for more than one head, and are properly the function of an Improvement Commission, which we must hope will be established in Hongkong before long. But as in other places in these articles, here again he insists that the Government (and none of these "matters" should be left to private enterprise) has no right to expect to make a profit out of its belated action to secure housing and general city reform.

ENTER THE LAND-HOG.

Of course, immediately it is proposed to open up a new suburb there is trouble with those whom one has termed the land-hogs. It is the moment for which they have been waiting. Overnight their holdings undergo a magic change, from barren wastes to inestimably precious expanses, which, however, as public-spirited men, in the most altruistic spirit possible, they will be prepared to sell to the suburb-makers at—100 or 200 per cent. profit!

The Singapore Commission came to the conclusion that land-hogging was much facilitated by the fact that vacant land, wherever situated was taxed barely more than nominally. Their remedy, already made law, is the progressive taxation of land suitable for building purposes or capable of being developed (by filling-in or other means), at reasonable cost, for such purposes. Similarly, on their recommendation, refunds of assessment for vacancy have been withdrawn. Such refunds were but just in many instances in the past, but in others they were very unjust (to the community). There were tottering houses, some positive ruins, occupying valuable sites, and the owners would not repair them and make them fit for habitation, thus escaping assessment and retaining the sites for higher values created by the

(Continued on Page 5.)

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Government House—Presentation of Motor Ambulance—6 p.m.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.

Coronet Theatre—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.

"Pinkie and the Kipper" Matinee at Theatre Royal—2.30 p.m.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.

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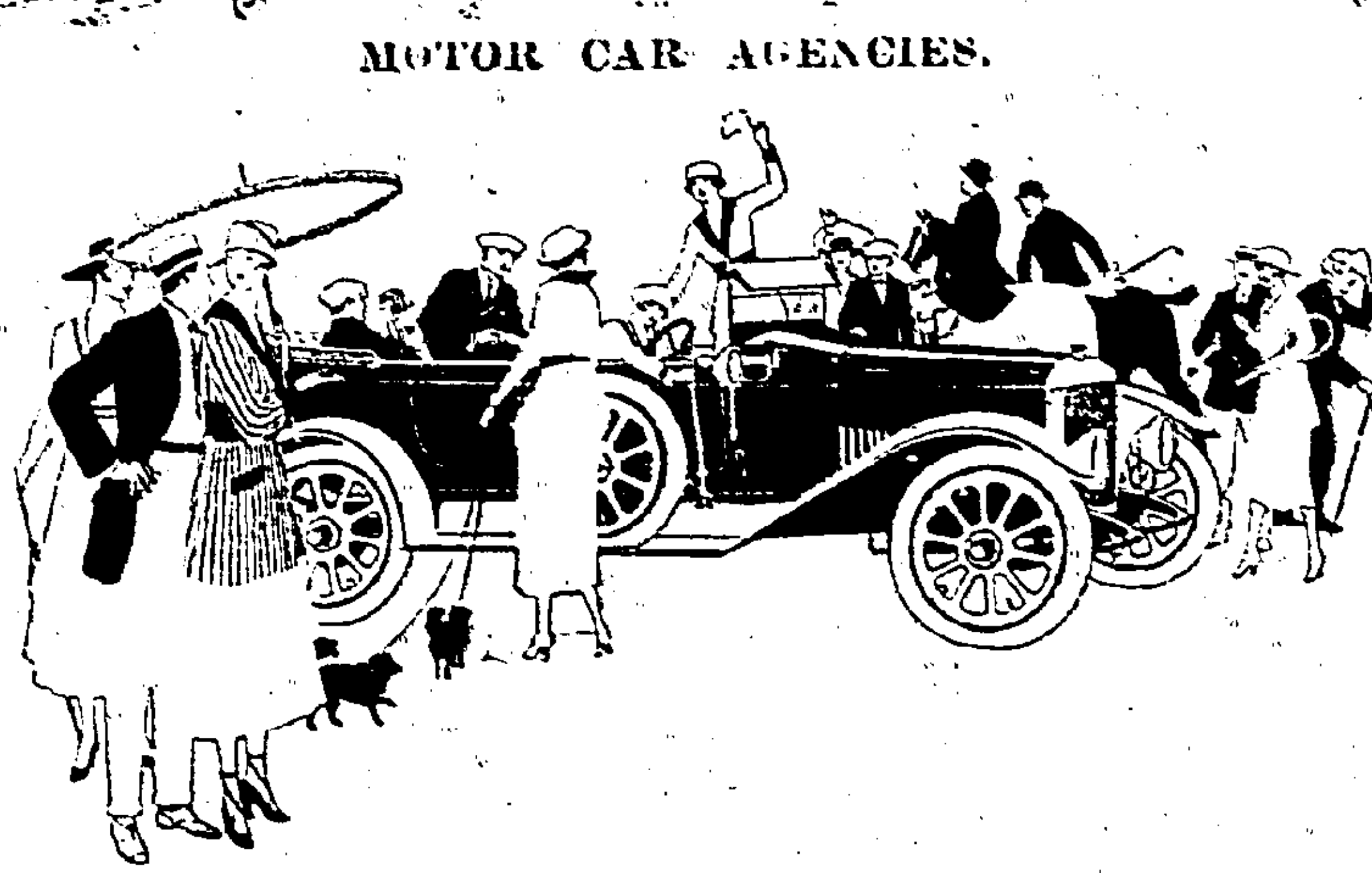
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SATURDAY'S FOOTBALL.
U.S. LEAGUE.
Club 0; Navy, 1.
2nd DIVISION LEAGUE.
St. Joseph's, 0; Staffs and Depts, 1.
88th Coy., 5; South China Res., 1.

A fine afternoon's sport was provided at the Valley on Saturday, the two matches on the Club ground being full of excitement and clever bits of football. The Navy by defeating the Club have made themselves very sure of the United Services League, whilst the Staffs victory over St. Joseph's will necessitate St. Joseph's winning at least one of their remaining games to secure the championship of the 2nd Division.

CLUB V. NAVY.
There was a fine crowd all round the ground when the teams lined out. The Navy, not taking any chances, fielded their strongest team for the season, but the Club were without several prominent players, Richelmann still playing full back, Pasco at right half and Rasmussen and Hamilton amongst the forwards, making the Club appear a very scratch lot. By the way the game started, however, the spectators soon realised that the game was going to be a close one, for the Club quickly settled down to a fast open game, and the Navy defence opening shakily, Crocker was lucky to get the ball away with several men-on him. Navy now got going and the right wing was

easily beating Carriere, but found McCubbin a stumbling block. Mc Niven was giving a lot of trouble and only some first-class goal-keeping by Rodger kept the Navy out on several occasions, one save by the Club goalie being very fine. From the ensuing clearance, the Club forwards broke clean away, and with an open goal, Hamilton struck the side post, the interval arriving with nothing scored.

Play was very keen in the second half and the ball was swung about in fine style, the first danger coming from the Navy, who found Rodger too much for them. Hereabout a delightful piece of combination by the Club forwards, saw Rasmussen clean through, but with the goal at his mercy he shot weakly into Crocker's hands. The Navy goal had yet another narrow escape. McTavish after a fine burst through, putting the ball just outside from a difficult angle. This portion of the game had been all Club's and at this stage they should have been a goal up at least. The Navy's goal was a trifle lucky. Carriere was beaten on the right, and a fine centre dropping in the goal-mouth was converted by McNiven just before time sounded.

The game was a very bright one and the Club have only themselves to blame for losing. To keep the strong Navy forward line out for practically the whole of the game, was very creditable to Rodger and his confreres, and the forwards had enough chances to have won outright. Rodger played a great game in goal, and it must be admitted Navy did more pressing because Crocker had not a lot of difficult shots, but Richelmann and

McCubbin, especially the latter, were much better than the Navy backs, who were shaky, and did too much touch-finding. Stewart played a rare good game and he had need to, as McNiven and Neal were right on top of their form. Pasco also on the Club side and Chapman for Navy played sterling games. McNiven for Navy and McTavish for Club were in a class by themselves amongst the forwards, both these players giving a first-class exhibition of clever forward play. Neal for the Navy and the inside left also played good games. The weakness of the Club forward line was in finishing as all the inside men missed easy chances, but Rasmussen and Taylor played very bright games.

Mr. Emery was in charge of the game.

ST. JOSEPH'S V. STAFFS AND DEPTS.
Considerable interest was taken in this game owing to the fact that St. Joseph's had so far not lost a game in the competition and both teams fielded their strongest eleven, Omar playing goal for St. Joseph's and E. Hyndman resuming his position at full back. Wain dropped into his old place at back for Staffs, and from the kick-off both teams went for the opposite goal with rare dash. St. Joseph's were nearly through following good play by Xavier and Silva, but Glenny was in good trim and after a lot of hard kicking and robust football the Staffs did some pressing and Street found the ball wandering about with only Omar to beat, which he did with a nicely-directed effort. St. Joseph's tried hard to level up, but Schooler and Wain were not taking any chances and kicked with good effect, the interval arriving with the Staffs leading 1 to nil.

The second half was a more ding-dong struggle and St. Joseph's were obviously handicapped by the greasy conditions of the ball and ground. The College had very hard lines on one occasion, Glenny bringing off a fine clearance and although Ogley went forward to help the van, there was no further scoring. Staffs having the distinction of being the only team to beat St. Joseph's in the League.

The Staffs won by virtue of the conditions, their weight and height being a great factor in the match. Staffs are a nicely balanced team throughout and on Saturday's form were up to 1st Division class. Glenny, Schooler, Knight, Sheriff and Ellarby are good players with the others not much

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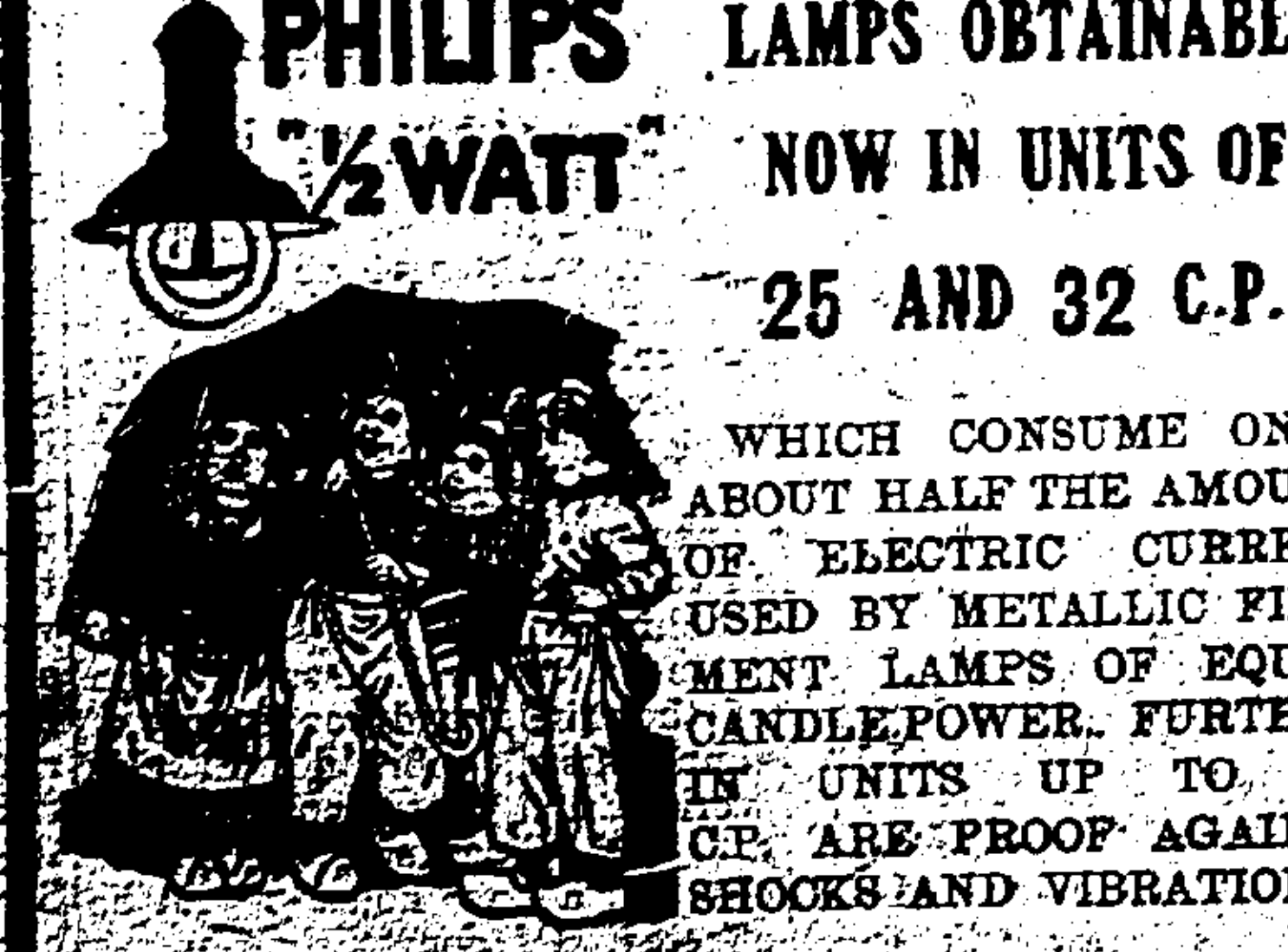
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below them, and these men had a big share in the victory. For St. Joseph's the brothers Omar and Hyndman, with Silva and Zeph, were prominent, and are players with a thorough knowledge of the game. The team played good football against a much heavier and taller combination, and there wasn't much in it.

Mr. Davis, R. N., was in charge of the game.

88th COY. V. SOUTH CHINA RES.
This game on the Navy ground saw the 88th Coy. to fine advantage, the forwards playing a fine game against their lighter opponents. The R. A. had most

of the game in the first half, scoring through Youall, Dawson (2) and Coultman, the latter player converting a penalty. In the second half, the Chinese team put up a much better show, and after Youall had increased the R. A. lead, South China scored a smart goal from a break-away. The Chinese team played raggedly, and were much below form, the 88th Coy. by contrast, playing a strong game. Jones, Youall, Coultman, Leatherland and Dawson being prominent.

Mr. Banks was in charge of the game.

QUIZ.

BLATCHFORD AND MILITARY LIFE.

IS IT A DEGRADING SERVITUDE?

A correspondent gives a contemporary some interesting quotations from Robert Blatchford's book, "My Life in the Army," which he believes discount the strong condemnation Blatchford passed on the life of the soldier as he experienced it. He calls attention to the following passage:—

"Let no civilian imagine that in these papers, or in any novel or story, he has seen the British Army and the British soldier as they are, or, rather, were. The common speech of the barrack room in my time was unprintable."

Again, in the concluding chapters of Blatchford's book he writes:—

"I left the Army more than thirty years ago, and much has happened since. These men are better soldiers than the men of the seventies. They look more intelligent, more alert, keener at their work. I should say, from their appearance, that they are stouter men than those I served with. I did not see a single caustic face in my day's ride."

..... The men are sober, steady, clean, and intelligent; they have the confidence and respect of their officers, and of the civilians, with whom they have come in contact. The change in our soldiers since I had the honour to serve may be emphasised by a comparison. All Londoners know the difference between the London cabman and the London chauffeur. There is the same difference between the soldiers of the seventies and the soldiers engaged in the manoeuvres. The men are stouter, better educated, keener, brighter, and younger.

"Also I have to say, emphatically, that a training which produces such results is good for any youth, and that the nation would be richer materially and morally if every English boy could be so trained."

"Further passages to which the correspondent directs attention are as follows:—

"For military training, if conducted on reasonable lines, is not a bad thing, but a good thing for all young men. And I am sure, and most soldiers will agree with me, that no gymnastics, nor athletics, nor sports can replace it. Because military training infuses a collective spirit and an instructive discipline which can be gained in no other way."

"I have seen cooler boys, mill hands, town-bred hooligans, ignorant, round-shouldered, pallid, unwashed, and morally loose come into a regiment; and in six months they were clean, smart, well-conducted, well-spoken, well-built soldiers. I have seen the transformation effected. I have myself gone through the mill. I am convinced that the Army saved my life. I am sure that it did me more good than any other experience I have had."

"Military training compels cleanliness and order and good behaviour. It gives a youth at the right time, and in the right way, good food, good clothing, healthy, open-air exercise. It provides a course of physical culture. It enforces early rising, habits of discipline, and regular hours of sleep. It improves the health and the physique, and it sharpens the mind and breeds the habit of self-reliance and alertness."

"But it does very much more than that. It trains men in comradeship; it infuses what I call the collective spirit." "I think it would be well in this country to pass first of all a Compulsory Service Act. Such questions as that of sleeping in or out of barracks could be arranged very quickly. The military law should be entirely overhauled and much of it wiped out. Soldiers need not be treated like naughty children. It would be advisable also, to impose a code of moral restraints and safeguards, of which it is not necessary to speak here or now."

"Now it will be observed that in the extract we quoted Blatchford gave his own personal experience from the inside. In the extracts above Blatchford is

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THE FRENCH STORE.

speaking mainly from hearsay, or from what he has observed from the outside. Even so it must be admitted that the passages are inconsistent and contradictory. In the extract we quoted giving Blatchford's own experience he says that he has seen "clean, good, nice boys come into the army and go the devil in less than a year." In the extract given above he speaks of seeing "ignorant, round-shouldered, pallid, unwashed, and morally loose" men coming into a regiment and becoming "clean, smart, well-conducted, well-spoken, well-built soldiers."

All the while we are to suppose that this is accomplished under "discipline unnecessarily severe and often stupid," which at the same time provides "an amount of licence which is dangerous to all but those of strong good sense and strong will." Again, Blatchford attributes much of the evils in the army to the barrack system, where the language of the men was unprintable and the morals shocking; yet he speaks of the soldiers of the later time, with the barrack system still in being, as much superior to those of his own day, proceeding to destroy any conclusion that the army is the cause of the improvement by pointing to the superiority of the modern London cabman, the chauffeur no more than the cabman having been through a military training! The explanation of these contradictions and discrepancies is that Blatchford some years ago was captured by the Jingo element of the Socialist party represented by Hyndman, who first came into prominence in an organised effort to break up a peace meeting in Hyde Park in 1878, held to protest against Britain going to war with Russia in defence of Turkey. This Jingo element of the English Socialist party had its counterpart in a section of the German Social

Democrats, which has been constantly quoted in the Times and other Northcliffe journals as evidence of the fact that even German Socialism was militarist. Blatchford is continually torn between his conscientious desire to represent the evils of military service as he experienced them, and his conviction that military service is necessary and therefore a good thing. But the conscript army that he would like to see organised is totally different from that of militarist conscriptionists like Colonel Arthur Lee, who supports conscription because he believes it would be cheap. Socialist national service such as Blatchford wants would be used for objects concerning which the military conscriptionist would shudder, yet the National Service League, with its staff of retired military officers, has no hesitation in quoting Blatchford as if he and they had the same aspirations.

HOMEWARD PASSAGES.

Calcutta, February 25.—The Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce have recently addressed the Government of India on the difficulty of securing homeward passages and also on the high fares charged. Owing to these difficulties, a large number of commercial men, whose leave is long overdue, will be compelled to remain in this country. Such a state of affairs, they say, is manifestly altogether unsatisfactory, and it is calculated to reflect seriously on the efficiency of the mercantile staffs. The Committee have represented the matter by cable to the East India Section of the London Chamber of Commerce, requesting that body strongly to press upon the Home Government the imperative necessity for immediate despatch to India of more passenger steamers.

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Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

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Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

The "Hongkong Telegraph" is now on sale at, and will be delivered to subscribers by, the Dairy Farm Company, Ltd., Shamshu, Canton, who are our agents there.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 1919.

MORE COMMANDEERING.

The path of those who have arranged to take Home leave this spring is most assuredly beset with obstacles. Hardly has the community had time to get over the disappointment and vexation caused by the cancelling of P. and O. passages, to make room for deported Germans, than the announcement comes of the commandeering, for military purposes, of the whole of the Canadian Pacific Ocean Services boats, one of which was to leave in five days' time. This means, according to information secured from the Company concerned, that close on a thousand residents who had planned to go Home in the near future have had all their arrangements upset and will now have to seek accommodation elsewhere, as best they can. In view, however, of the excessive demand for homeward passages, their task will be no easy one, even if it is possible of accomplishment.

What the public will now want to know is whether or not this requisitioning of large passenger liners is to be taken lying down. The Company concerned cannot, of course, help matters at all; it merely has to do as it is told by the authorities, even though the orders mean fresh confusion just as matters were beginning to be put straight. For it must be recollected that these very same vessels have only just been released from Government service. We have no knowledge as to what action, if any, was taken in Hongkong at the time of the commandeering of the P. and O. steamers, but we all know with what indignation Singapore and the F. M. S. expressed themselves on the matter. There, the protest was instrumental in getting the question raised in the House of Commons, with the result that a special relief ship was diverted to the Straits, and there is every probability of another being available shortly. Now, if Singapore had good cause for complaint, surely Hongkong now has. Hongkong's would-be passengers have been hit just as much as the Straits, by the P. and O. cancellations, and we now have to suffer a blow which will not fall to our Southern neighbours, since the liners now commandeered have the terminus of their runs here. A relief ship was secured by Singapore for the sake of far fewer passengers than are effected by this requisitioning of C.P.O.S. steamers. Will the local Chamber of Commerce, and the Government as well, see to it that efforts are at once made to secure fresh passages for those who have had their hopes of early leave suddenly dashed to the ground? Action is urgently necessary. What Singapore has done, surely Hongkong can also achieve.

The ways of Government are past all understanding. There may be there, probably are good reasons why ships should be found for the purpose of carrying troops from Vladivostok to Canada, if that is the explanation of this latest requisitioning. But it does seem hard that passenger liners which have just been released from Government service should be selected for the work. If a special ship can be sent out to take Singapore passengers Home, why cannot others be delegated for this military work? Not only is this constant chopping and changing—ships commandeered, then released and then commandeered again—intensely annoying to the Companies and passengers alike, but it must inevitably involve huge expenditure. Fine vessels like the Empress boats cannot be used as troopships without tremendous alterations being carried out. It is fortunate for the Government that it has a deep pocket into which it can dive to meet disbursements of this kind, but, on the face of things, the promiscuous requisitioning of passenger boats does not seem a very business-like procedure. If no other method is open, it cannot, of course, be helped, but the public may be forgiven if it thinks that the authorities are all too ready to snap up vessels on regular runs. It is of no use grumbling; something must be done, and done at once. That is the first necessity. This time, we hope Hongkong will stir itself in the matter.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE DOCK COMPANY.

The Chairman's speech at the meeting of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company further illustrates the point we commented on yesterday—that there is a great future for Hongkong as a shipbuilding centre. It may be said that the Colony hardly realised the extent of its capabilities in this direction before the war, and certainly the people concerned at Home did not. But when the call for ships and still more ships became so urgent, Hongkong rose to the occasion and it was soon realised that the Colony would take no small place in shipbuilding industry in the future. This was further emphasised by the launching of many big vessels, eclipsing all previous records of the Colony. Judging from the Chairman's statements as to the enlargement of the Kowloon establishment, there is every prospect that still larger vessels will be built whilst to cope with the future, which will undoubtedly see larger steamers trading to the East, new docks are being prepared in anticipation of heavier demands. The Kowloon Dock Company has had a very prosperous year; the directors are very wisely looking to the future and the policy they have adopted is commendable in every way.

A FLING AT THE BOLSHEVISTS.

"In any great country pure democracy is impossible or that democracy is impossible unless the principle of oligarchy is its concomitant." This passage is from a book written by Mr. W. H. Mallock on "The Limits of Pure Democracy." Pure democracy, Mr. Mallock contends, is possible only in small and primitive societies where the problems of political administration are the fundamental facts of social and economic existence and where a consensus in regard to the ends desired by the community and the means necessary to assure them is not only attainable but necessarily manifest. Groups of people living in a savage or pioneer state are confronted primarily by problems on which their individual members are apt to think alike. They must have the means of subsistence and they must have the means of protection and it needs no propagandist to persuade them of the necessity of the one or the method to be employed to achieve the other. In such groups, then, there is a "general will" of a spontaneous kind, and pure democracy is not only possible but inevitable. Though men may still unite on the general ends to be attained, not only are they no longer certain to reach them, but in proportion as they are intelligent of judgment, they are apt to have different minds concerning them. No phrase, says Mr. Mallock, can be formulated, to convey in a nutshell the complementary relationship of democracy and oligarchy. Oligarchy, or the rule of the many by the few, is therefore, an unescapable concomitant of constitutional government. This recalls to our mind the case of Russia, where democracy has severed itself from oligarchy. What has been the result? Confusion, and consequent anarchy and Bolshevism. We read in Reuter's message of the serious menace that the spread of Bolshevism throughout Central Europe is causing the Allies. Let the Bolshevists espouse the tenets of Mr. Mallock. We find this passage to the detestable head of Bolshevists: "In any great and civil state, democracy only knows itself through the co-operation of oligarchy, or that many can prosper only through the anticipation in benefits which, in the case alike of material comfort, opportunity and social freedom, would be possible for no one unless the many submit themselves to the influence or authority of the super-capable few."

TRAMWAY RETURNS.

The following is the approximate statement of the Hongkong Tramway Company's traffic receipts for the week ending 29th March, 1919:

	Receipts for week for 13 weeks.	Aggregate Receipts for 13 weeks.
This Year...	\$13,355	\$185,525
Last Year...	12,529	178,550
Increase...	826	6,975
Decrease...		

DAY BY DAY.

THERE IS ONE REDEMPTIVE FEATURE ABOUT A CHRONIC BORROWER; HE NEVER STRIKES A MAN WHEN HE IS DOWN.

The report of the Rev. J. Kirk Macouachie's Sunday morning sermon will appear to-morrow.

Some inconvenience is being given to the business firms in Shamshu because of the refusal of the main telegraph office in Canton City proper to further connect its wires with the branch office at Shamshu.

The second batch of enemy subjects will be repatriated by the Bureau of Repatriation at Canton on April 11. The number is 45, including men, women, and children. The Bureau of Repatriation is now only awaiting for the arrival of a steamer.

"Pinkie" will make her last but one appearance to-morrow afternoon (the 8th performance) and she will make her final bow on Thursday at 4.30 p.m. (the 9th performance). Nine performances constitute a record "run" in the history of the local A.P.C.

A Chinese detective was included among eight Chinese who were this morning charged at the Police Court before Mr. G. N. Orme with gambling. The bail of two of the accused were sequestered as they did not appear in Court to answer the charge. Mr. Leo d'Almeida, who was for the defence, asked for a short remand, which was granted.

During last week there were notified fourteen cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis, nine fatal, ten fatal cases of plague, three fatal occurrences, each of diphtheria and enteric fever and one non-fatal case each of scarlet fever and angina-pex. Since then, two fatal cases each of plague and cerebro-spinal fever, as well as a fatal occurrence of enteric, have been recorded. All were Chinese.

A Chinese market gardener who kept an unlicensed watch dog went to the expense of engaging a lawyer Mr. Leo d'Almeida to defend him when he was summoned by the Police for lacking the licence. The case was adjourned by the Magistrate, on the application of Mr. d'Almeida, who said he wanted to explain the gardener's case to the Captain Superintendent of Police.

The Rathe's Gazette showing the Annistie celebrations at Home and the surrender of some of the vessels of the German Fleet is attracting good crowds to the Coronet Theatre. Yesterday, at the two sessions, there were full houses. In advertising the film, the Coronet management advised patrons not to expect too much, but the audiences yesterday were agreeably surprised at what they did see. The film is a most attractive one.

In the renowned case of a Chinese who was arrested at Li Yuen Street for being in possession of four lbs. of loose opium, it was to-day explained by the defending solicitor (Mr. Hall of Messrs. Lo & Lo) that the prisoner was given \$2 by another man to carry the opium. Evidence was given by a Chinese constable to the effect that he chased the prisoner and took the opium, which was concealed under his clothing. A fine of £100, or, in default, two months' hard labour, was imposed.

One of the members of the Hongkong General Military Service Force which was sent to Kirkee and later went on to Salonica, writes from Honschouk, in Bulgaria, (on the Danube) under date of January 25. He says that on January 25 the party of which he is a member left Serres by goods train and made its way right across Bulgaria to the northern border, Rumanian soil being just across the river. Further travelling was in store at the time of writing, as the unit to which they had to go, was stationed at Silistria, further up the Danube.

AN ISLANDER'S DIARY.

[BY "AJAX."]

Events of the past week in Hongkong have not been of a startling nature, but more dull times are ahead of us and it is sometimes extremely difficult to make a decent diary for the delectation of my readers. The weather is always a subject full of interest to one and all. So many speculations have been indulged in on the subject recently that I am extremely chary of forecasting the "climate." Last week, with a deep sigh, we brushed most of our winter garments and reposed them in camphor in our wardrobes and trunks, many donned their whites, the sun was hot and the indications were unmistakable that we were in for a long spell of summer. The aerated water and ice manufacturers rejoiced that summer had been ushered in so early this year. Things continued like this for some days until at the week-end a few showers of rain gave us another cold nip which has continued ever since. I would not like to prophesy what career our weather is going to pursue, but it looks as if winter will still linger with us, probably till May.

Talking about the weather, it would be a capital idea if a State pawnshop were created to receive and pay against the garments of the poor citizens of this Colony. If such a pawnshop is established, it would help the poor to tide over their suiting bills. When the winter is over, they would take their winter garments to the State pawnshop, and get sufficient money to invest in summer clothing. Interest should not be charged on the pawning of articles by the State pawnshop. The Chinese have a nice way of getting over their clothing problem by pawning their garments after the season is over. Those Chinese who pawned their trousers and jackets in the belief that they have seen the obsequies of winter performed have now to go back and get their warm jackets, etc.

The past month has been one of re-unions and departures. The incoming boats have brought a cargo of wives, who, by reason of the unrestricted subordination during the war, been prevented from joining their husbands here. A good proportion of our menfolk are going home on long leave, and those who have booked passages by those liners that have been commandeered will be in great predicament. Mr. E. H. Sharp's departure last Saturday by the Empress of Asia on a six months' holiday home, where he intends to undergo a small operation, will cause a vacancy on the Executive Council. It will be interesting to know who is going to take his place during his absence. Then, I hear that Mr. P. H. Hoyle will be shortly going on a long furlough, which will necessitate another election for a seat on the Legislative Council. Come on, you Constitutional Reformers; secure all the vacant seats on the Council!

If there is any problem that does not seem to grow old it is the housing trouble, which is a perennial source of discussion. If the gods on Olympus only descended a bit to the plains and heard the delightful epithets that citizens in this Colony are daily heaping on them, it would give them an insight into our real feelings. Things in all consciences are becoming chronic. The cost of living is going up like a rocket; people are finding it difficult to get shelter. Those who tried to solve their housing difficulties in Kowloon find that it is all a will o' the wisp. Landlords in Kowloon are piling up increases on their tenants periodically without any compunction and, if this state of affairs continues for another six months, we shall have to consider the advisability of living in Yaumati. Has there been a greater scandal in the history of Hongkong? Where is

it all going to end? The poor working class who have migrated to Kowloon, where they expected to find a haven of repose from the clutches of the rapacious landlords and Japanese and Chinese house-hunters and grabbers, find that they have simply jumped from the frying pan into the fire. I am told that a local Company has just sent out a notice to all its tenants informing them of an increase of \$10 per month on their rentals. Then there are the Chinese lessees, who take houses on long leases from their owners and straightaway increase the rents and keep on increasing them.

If Bumblebee cannot make up its mind as to how to grapple with the housing problem of this Colony it can at least introduce into the Legislative Council a Bill regulating the rents and occupation of houses in Hongkong. A House Rental and Accommodation Committee, if constituted forthwith, to enquire into the increase in rentals will serve to minimise our trouble. The main conditions of the Act, if such were introduced, should be that there should be no increases in rentals compared to 1915. However, before the Bill is passed, there would doubtless be a good deal of criticism of the measure, for much of the present difficulty is entirely due to the past appalling want of foresight of the Government of Hongkong. As a measure declared to be necessary by the Government, Hongkong house-owners would probably accept this proposed legislation with equanimity. Can't some one wake up the official Rip Van Winkles on the Council? While we are crying ourselves hoarse on the acute housing troubles of this Colony, some people are talking glibly of Constitutional Reform. Constitutional Reform is anathema. Give us Housing Reform. Now we have a Constitutional Reform. Bombay has a Rent Bill and that was greeted with joy by the residents of that port. Why cannot a Rent Bill be introduced in this Colony?

Our housing problem indeed has become so acute that it is to most people of far more importance than any question of politics, and there are thousands who care a great deal more that they should be well and comfortably housed at a price within their means than they care about Constitutional Reform or the most suitable memorial to commemorate the war. Many seem to think that if they persist in declaiming against the avariciousness of landlords they will persuade the Government to step in and legislate. All that I can say is that the time for Government action has arrived. By legislating that rents should not be more than that ruling in 1913 it would touch the fringe of the problem of housing as that affects the community as a whole.

From the Indian papers to hand by yesterday's mail we see that the Government of India has announced that funds would be placed at the disposal of Local Governments at a low rate of interest for the purpose of facilitating the housing of the working class. The urgent need for action in Bombay and Calcutta has probably been instrumental in bringing about this decision. Private capitalists, as Hongkong has shown unmistakably, are somewhat unwilling to move in this matter of housing and even large employers of labour, with the exception of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., and probably a couple more, have been content to see their workers most inadequately housed. If the Government of Hongkong promise to help with capital for the purpose of house building, it will ease the situation. It may pave the way for the creation of the Hongkong Development Trust, which is a matter for early legislation. The housing problem in Hongkong is closely connected with cheap and easy travel for the workers between the place of their employment and their homes. Take the case of a man who lives in Kowloon. He pays \$8 for a monthly ferry pass, 10 cents each time to the

THE GYMKHANA.

HANDICAPS FOR SATURDAY.

Booth we give the handicaps for the first Gymkhana, to be held on 5th April. The handicaps have been arranged by Mr. D. M. Ross with exception of weights for "Pink Eye" and "Grouse" which were fixed by Mr. G. W. Gegg.

ONCE ROUND—"A" CLASS.

Pink Eye	13.2 160 lbs.
Malcolm	13.0 157 "
Alexander	13.1 155 "
Swallow	13.2 151 "
Regularity Dahlia (Griffin)	12.3 154 "
Vivat	13.0 152 "
Tytan Chief	13.1 152 "
Grouse	13.1 152 "
Greyhouse	13.0 152 "
Viola	13.0 151 lbs.

(Late Burst Length)	
Beard Or	13.1 150 "
Smokebox	13.1 150 "
Burning Daylight	13.1 150 "
Starlight	13.0 150 "
Mountain Ford	12.3 149 "
(Late Vesuvius)	
Dusky Dahlia	13.2 148 "
Judea (late Moonlight)	12.3 146 "

ONCE ROUND—"B" CLASS.

Rochester	13.1 158 lbs.
Maybe	13.0 155 "
Flyford (late Firefly)	13.2 155 "
Lorejoy (late American Chief)	12.3 154 "
King John	13.3 153 "
Victory Star	13.0 152 "
Aldong II (late Tambourine)	13.1 152 "
Second Fiddle	12.3 149 "
Weihai Chief	13.0 148 "
Meymoon	13.0 147 "
Wedding Bells	13.1 147 "
Rheostat	13.1 147 "
Cassius	13.1 147 "
Excelsior	13.0 146 "

1 1/2 MILE HANDICAP.

Pink Eye	13.2 160 lbs.
Malcolm	13.0 159 "
Alexander	13.1 157 "
Regularity Dahlia (Griffin)	12.3 156 "
Tytan Chief	13.1 155 "
Vivat	13.0 155 "
Swallow	13.2 155 "
Greyhouse	13.0 153 "
Rochester	13.1 152 "
Burning Daylight	13.1 151 "
Mountain Ford	12.3 149 "
(Late Vesuvius Dahlia)	
Beard Or	13.1 149 "
Dusky	13.2 149 "
Maybe	13.0 148 "
Lorejoy	13.0 147 "
(Late American Chief)	
Eaton Boy	13.0 145 "
Weihai Chief	13.0 145 "

ricksha coolie, or, in other words, ricksha costs a Kowloonite from \$10 to \$15 a month. Something is urgently required to meet the growing urgency of the housing conditions in this Colony. It is the bounden duty of the Government to solve this for its citizens and no time should be lost in appointing a Commission to make recommendations.

Napoleon the First described the journalist as a grumbler, a censorer, a giver of advice, a regent of sovereigns and a tutor of nations. There are more functions that a journalist fills. Down in Karachi, a seaport town in India, Mr. S. Lupton, the editor of the Daily Gazette, was fined on account of his non-attendance to answer the summons as a juror at the Criminal Sessions. Mr. Lupton maintained that it was the custom in most parts of the world never to summon journalists, particularly editors of papers. After the payment of the fine, Mr. Lupton sent the following note to the Registrar:—"You summoned me as juror in my capacity as editor and not, as customary, in my private capacity, from my private address. I am not aware whether money so secured by the Court is earmarked in any way. I feel that I ought to have something to say as to the eventual destination of the money extracted from me. I, therefore, suggest that the \$50 should be expended in the purchase of soap, a scrubbing brush and a couple of days' labour, wherewith the surroundings of the Court may be brought into a state something approaching cleanliness, as the Government apparently have no funds for this purpose." Hoity-toity!

LOCAL SLANDER ACTION.

CHIEF OFFICER AT LAW.

In the Summary Court, this morning, before Mr. Justice Melbourne, E. James, chief officer of the s.s. On Lee, sued W. Chapman, chief officer of the s.s. San Ning, for \$1,000 damages for slander in respect of a false statement made and published by the defendant in the presence of the plaintiff at Kongmoon on February 7, this year. Plaintiff alleges that on February 7, the defendant falsely and maliciously spoke and published of the plaintiff, to John Prentice, the following words:—"James has my pocket book," and that on the same date, the defendant falsely and maliciously spoke and published of the plaintiff, in the presence of John Prentice, the words—"Give me back my pocket book, I have sufficient proof that you have stolen it and the contents." Plaintiff meaning thereby that the plaintiff had stolen the defendant's pocket book and the contents and was guilty of an indictable offence.

Mr. W. E. L. Shenton, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker, Deacon and Harston, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. H. Gardiner represented the defendant.

Mr. Shenton said the action was for damages for slander on February 7. There were two separate slanders, one to John Prentice, Chief Engineer of the On Lee, and one to the plaintiff. On February 7, Mr. Prentice was standing on the deck of the On Lee, which was alongside at Kongmoon, and the defendant was standing on the wharf and there was a conversation. There was a further conversation in the plaintiff's cabin. The statement of the defence says that defendant does not admit that he spoke or published the words set out in the statement of claim and that if he did speak the words, which he denies, they were true and that no other person was present when they were spoken or heard the same. That means that the plaintiff took a pocket book from the defendant containing valuable documents and money amounting to \$117. At first the defendant denies that he made the statement and then he says if he did say the words, they were true. On February 7, the plaintiff went into the King Edward Hotel about four or five o'clock in the evening for the purpose of getting a little refreshment and he there saw the defendant sitting between two soldiers apparently in a semi-comatose condition. After plaintiff had been in the hotel a short time, the bar boy requested him to take the defendant away. Plaintiff got the defendant into a ricksha and took him to his house and left him there. On the following morning, plaintiff went to defendant's house to see how he was, and defendant said he had lost his pocket book but made no charge against plaintiff. He simply said he had lost the pocket book. On February 7 both plaintiff and defendant were in Kongmoon. Mr. Prentice was on board the On Lee and the defendant was standing on the wharf. Mr. Prentice asked defendant if he had found his book and defendant replied "James has got my pocket book." Subsequently, defendant went on board the On Lee and went to James' cabin and in the hearing of Mr. Prentice said "James, give me

back my pocket book. I have sufficient proof that you have stolen it and the contents." Mr. Prentice thereupon reprimanded defendant, saying that he had no right to make such an accusation unless there was strong evidence to prove it. Plaintiff subsequently heard in Kongmoon that defendant had accused plaintiff of stealing his book, to several European gentlemen, and consequently a letter was written to defendant demanding the withdrawal of the accusation and an apology, which if not forthcoming, the matter would be placed in the hands of plaintiff's legal advisors. The defendant replied to this letter stating that he intended to take action but it would take time and that it was not intended to "push it on". His Lordship would appreciate from those two letters that there was only one defence now open to the defendant and that was justification. James afterwards instructed Messrs. Deacon, Looker, Deacon and Harston to write to the defendant demanding an apology and the payment of \$100 damages, which would be handed to War Charities.

Mr. James, from the witness box, stated, in reply to Mr. Shenton, that he went into the King Edward Hotel on the day mentioned "just to have a little drink". He saw defendant there sitting between two soldiers, more or less under the influence of liquor. Witness was asked by the bar boy "Charlie" to take the defendant away from the soldiers. He took defendant out and put him in a ricksha and took him to his house at No. 34 Wanchai. Witness himself also accompanied defendant. He went to see him next day. Defendant said he had lost his book. Witness said he knew nothing about it. Defendant made no charge against witness then.

On February 7, at Kongmoon, defendant went aboard witness' ship and accused him of stealing the book. Mr. Prentice was present and heard what was said. Later witness put the matter in the hands of his solicitors.

Cross-examined by Mr. Gardiner, witness said he had known defendant about three or four years. It was not true that defendant was sitting in the King Edward bar alone. He was with two soldiers. Witness stood drinks. He had one himself and the defendant had a plain soda, because he was so drunk the bar boy would not serve him with whisky. Later witness helped defendant out of the bar. He fell down but he got him in a ricksha. He took him home. He was very drunk and it was with great difficulty that he was got upstairs. It was not a fact that the Chinese woman who looks after defendant felt in the latter's pocket and drew attention to the fact that the pocket book with the money was missing. Defendant did not say to the woman "That's all right, James has got it." He handed the first letter to defendant saying, "Here is a letter and it is a business one too." Defendant did not appear to be able to write a business letter.

Mr. Gardiner.—Have you had any drinks in the King Edward Hotel bar this morning?

Witness.—No, I have not had a drop to-day (laughter). When he handed defendant the letter he asked him to "come on the wharf."

Mr. Gardiner.—Did he go?

Witness.—No. He isn't man enough—(laughter).

Mr. Prentice then gave evidence, corroborating plaintiff's case.

Mr. Chapman, in reply to Mr. Gardiner, denied he was sitting with anyone in the bar.

Witness said he was not so drunk as they supposed him to be when he saw Mr. James in the hotel. He had a drink with James.

Mr. Gardiner.—Was it a plain soda?

Witness.—Oh, I shouldn't think so. I don't usually drink plain sodas. I was drunk. Oh yes, I will not deny that, but not so very drunk. Oh yes, I think I may say it was not plain soda. Oh no, you can take it from me that there is usually some whisky in it when I drink soda—(laughter).

Proceeding, witness said he knew he had the pocket book in his pocket when he went out of the hotel. He knew James had it afterwards. It may have dropped out of his pocket. When plaintiff went to witness' house the next morning, witness said—"How much did those American sailors take from you?" I heard you lost some money." Plaintiff said he lost \$140. Witness told plaintiff that he had lost \$117. Plaintiff said "Oh, you will never see that again." Witness replied "Oh, won't I?" Witness was sure then that plaintiff had got his book. When Mr. Prentice was told by witness that James had the book, Mr. Prentice said "Why don't you charge him?" Witness said "Right" and went on board the On Lee to James' cabin. James was lying down and witness shook him and said "Jimmy, where is my pocket book?" Plaintiff said "I have not got it."

Mr. Gardiner.—What did you say then?

Witness.—I said no, I know you have not. Tell me you did not have it.

Mr. Gardiner.—What did plaintiff say?

Witness.—He grunted at me—(laughter). Yes, I know then as 'ow he 'adn't got it because I knowed he had destroyed it—(laughter).

Mr. Shenton.—Mr. Chapman, have you ever read Grimm's Fairy Tales in your young days?

Witness.—Oh no, I am sorry but I can't say I have. Why?

Mr. Shenton.—Well because I think you would make a very good Mr. Grimm—(laughter). Did you say Mr. James had stolen your pocket book?

Witness.—No, I never said that. You are running away with yourself. You are running your head against a brick wall (laughter).

Mr. Shenton.—Why did not Mr. James give you back your pocket book if he had taken it?

Witness.—Because there was too much money in it—(laughter).

Mr. Shenton.—You went into the cabin and whispered to Mr. James when you accused him? You spoke so that nobody could hear you outside?

Witness.—I'll bet you a shilling you could not have heard it—(laughter).

Mr. Shenton.—I put it to you that the reason you say you could not be heard is because your lawyer has told you that if there is no publication there can be no libel?

Witness.—You say that—(laughter).

After further evidence had been heard, His Lordship gave judgment for plaintiff, with damages fixed at \$200.

ANOTHER DEPARTMENT TO GO.

The British Prisoners of War Department is likely before long to disappear as a separate body, the remaining stages of its work, such as the tracing of soldiers, being a matter for the War Office.

BISHOP LANDER RETURNS.

AN INTERESTING TOUR.

The Bishop of Victoria Hongkong and the Rev. H. E. Anderson, of the Bible Society, returned last evening from a three weeks' tour in Kwangtung and Kwangsi. They travelled over a thousand miles by boat, chair and on foot.

The Bishop held confirmations at Pakhoi, Liemchow, Moli, Lingshan and Nanning Fo, and Mr. Anderson arranged for the circulation of the Scriptures. The district traversed was said to be unsettled and in parts infested with robbers but, except for observing that Namheung has recently been looted, they found only the usual peaceful and industrious people. Their voyage down the West River was somewhat delayed by the fact that the boat in which they travelled struck a sharp rock in shooting the rapids and was only kept afloat by the skill of the Chinese boatmen.

At every place visited they were impressed by the friendliness of the people and the great opportunity for missionary enterprise.

HOUSEBREAKING CHARGES.

On seven charges of house-breaking and larcenies, which he admitted to, the Police he committed on houses occupied by Japanese at different streets in Wanchai between February 18 and March 29 last, and as a consequence of which money and clothing to the total value of \$950 were stolen, a Chinese was brought before Mr. G. N. Orme to-day and was remanded at the request of the Police who said they wished to bring the case to the notice of the Captain Superintendent of Police with a view to deciding the advisability of sending the prisoner for trial at the Supreme Court. It was stated by Inspector Kent that after the robbery at Spring Garden Lane, in which the prisoner admitted he was concerned, detectives were set to work and they traced the property to various pawnshops where the prisoner is alleged to have disposed of his loot. A description of the prisoner supplied to the Police by the pawnbroker resulted in his arrest at Queen's Road East. The prisoner pleaded not guilty to the charges and was formally remanded until Thursday morning.

LADY ANTIQUARY'S FIND.

A discovery of much interest to students of ecclesiastical history has been made at Crediton, Devonshire. The discovery consists of a fine specimen on vellum of Tudor script. On examination by the head of the Exeter Cathedral school and other connoisseurs it proved to be the original Letters Patent granted by the boy King Edward VI in 1551 appointing the great Bible translator, Miles Coverdale, to the bishopric of Exeter. The vellum has been handed over to the Very Rev. the Dean of Exeter (the Rev. H. Gamble), and will be included in the valuable manuscripts which are in the custody of the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral of the "Ever-faithful city." The discovery was made by a lady antiquary, Miss Cresswell, and the Vicar of Crediton, a Prebendary W. L. Smith-Dorrien.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENT.

TO BE SOLD.

TO BE SOLD.—Pursuant to an ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG dated the 7th day of March 1919 made in an Action in the matter of the Estate of HO TSUN SAN alias HO SHU TONG alias HO SAN CHUNG alias HO A SIK alias HO A SEEK alias HO A SIK deceased.

M. GEORGE P. LAMMERT

at his Auction Rooms in Addell Street

WEDNESDAY the 30th day of April 1919 at 3 o'clock in the AFTERNOON IN TWENTY LOTS TH- VALUABLE LEASE-HOLD PROPERTY

Lot 1 and being No. 49 and 51 Hollywood Road standing on Inland Lot No. 200, Nos. 40 and 406 Queen's Road West, Nos. 5 and 7 Sam To Lane all standing on the Remaining Portion of Section F of Inland Lot No. 809, Nos. 51, 53, 137 and 153 Second Street standing on the Remaining Portion of Inland Lot No. 759 and Section G, and the Remaining Portion of Inland Lot No. 500, Nos. 27, 31, 35, 37, 39, and 41 Centre Street standing on the Remaining Portion of Inland Lot No. 739, Nos. 25, 28 and 52, First Street standing on the Remaining Portion of Inland Lot No. 583, No. 43 Graham Street standing on the Remaining Portion of Inland Lot No. 195, No. 30 Peel Street and No. 22 Gage Street, being respectively Section E and Section G of Inland Lot No. 187, Victoria Hongkong.

Lot 1 consists of the two same European Houses, Nos. 49 and 51 Hollywood Road held under a Crown Lease having 932 years to run.

Lot 2 comprises Nos. 402 Queen's Road West and No. 7 Sam To Lane.

Lot 3 comprises No. 406 Queen's Road West.

Lot 4 comprises No. 5 Sam To Lane.

Lots 5 & 6 are Nos. 137 and 153 Second Street.

Lots 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are all held for a term of 999 years of which 942 years are unexpired.

Lot 7 to 12 inclusive are Nos. 27, 31, 35, 36, 39 and 41 Centre Street, one house for each lot. All are held under a Crown Lease having 912 years unexpired.

Lots 13, 14 and 15 comprise Nos. 51 and 53 Second Street and 52, First Street. These lots are held under a Crown Lease having 912 years unexpired.

Lots 16 and 17 are Nos. 25 and 28 First Street held under a Crown Lease with 933 years unexpired.

Lot 18 is No. 43 Graham Street. This lot has 934 years to run.

Lots 19 and 20 are No. 30 Peel Street and No. 22 Gage Street. They are both held under a Crown Lease having an unexpired term of 911 years. All the above houses except lot 1 are Chinese houses.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from and sale plans of the property may be inspected at the offices of:—

Mr. E. L. AGASSIZ,

24 Queen's Road Central,

or

Mr. GEORGE P. LAMMERT

The Auctioneer.

TO-DAY'S NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

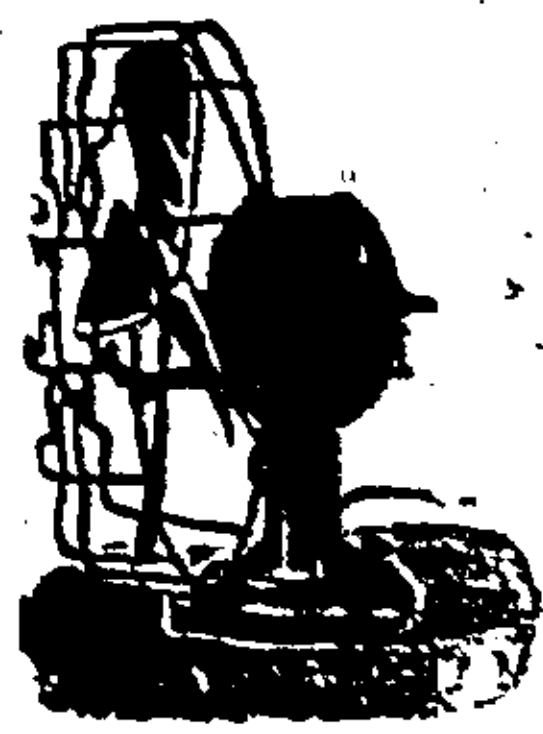
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General Engineering and Electrical Work Electro silver and nickel Plating Tinning, lacquering and Bronzing Repair work of any description And above all our prices are right and we can give prompt delivery.



NOTICE.

NOTICE.—Mr. Edward Victor David Parr and Mr. Ernest Adwell Richards have this day been admitted Partners of our Firms in Hongkong and Shanghai

MACKINNON MACKENZIE & CO.

Post Box No. 113, 22 Des Voeux Road Central, Hongkong, 1st April 1919

NOTICE.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA.

NOTICE.—Under instructions from the Court of Directors, I have to-day assumed charge of this Branch.

J. L. CROCKATT, Manager.

Hongkong, 1st April, 1919.

NOTICE.

NOTICE.—The Agents of The Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Co., The British India Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. and The "Apar" Line of Steamers in Hongkong have this day been transferred to Messrs Mackinnon Mackenzie & Co.

MACKINNON MACKENZIE & CO.

Post Box No. 113, 22 Des Voeux Road Central, Hongkong, 1st April 1919.

WISEMAN, LTD.

TEA DANCES

TO-DAY

TUESDAY, 1st April.

AND ON

THURSDAY, 3rd April, FRIDAY, 4th April.

D. M. GOODALL, Manager.

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JUST ARRIVED.

Large Assortment of Lace Works, Embroideries, Draw Thread Works, comprising Collars, Blouses, Handkerchiefs, Table & Bed Covers, etc., Fillet & other Hand-made Laces. Exquisite modern designs, Excellent quality, Moderate prices. INSPECTION CORDIALLY INVITED. SWATOW DRAWN WORK CO., NO. 14, DES VOEUX ROAD, CENTRAL.

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CHARLIE CHAPLIN IN HIS SECOND MILLION DOLLAR PICTURE

SHOULDER ARMS

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY.

THIS HAS PROVED TO BE A GREAT SUCCESS

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY.

THEATRE

HONGKONG HOUSING QUESTION.

(Continued from page 1.)

normal development of the localities concerned. The community lost both house-room and a proper contribution to the public funds. The withdrawal of refunds for vacancy can scarcely result in any hardships so long as the present demand for houses continues.

How far the Singapore circumstances relating to land-hogging are duplicated in Hongkong is a matter of local knowledge, easily ascertainable.

Given your suburbs, what shall be built there—bungalows or flats? The flat-system crowds many people into a small space. Bungalows are infinitely preferable; they afford reasonable privacy and make real family life possible, perhaps at very little more rent, for a bungalow need not at all be the substantial and costly type of building that it is necessary for a block of flats to be. The question is largely one of space. In either case there must be provision for recreation—greens for the children, tennis courts for the grown-ups, and so on. One tennis court may serve for several families—that is one way of saving space.

THE ALIEN INVASION. Next a very important subject demands discussion—the alien invasion. Without some measure to confine this within proper limits, all proposals are futile, or very nearly so. Probably the only effective measure, and one giving fairness all round, is a system of reservations. This should apply not only to the invading aliens but also to the various nationalities of British subjects.

The Government cannot reject this proposal as unprecedented, for they have already adopted it for one part of the island. If the Peak can be made a close preserve for certain classes, why not other localities, where such protection is more urgently needed? There would certainly be great difficulties in working out such a system. (For one thing, existing tenancies, wherever held, might have to be given a "life" security, and the system applied only to all new tenancies.) But if anyone can advance a more effective and more easily operated proposal, for dealing with a matter that indubitably must be dealt with, let him now speak, or for ever hold his peace.

AN IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION. The various proposals made for dealing with Hongkong's Housing Question, by no means cover all the ground. It will, however, be conceded, one hopes, that sufficient has been set down to supply the framework of a serviceable programme of housing and general city reform, subject to variation as investigation and expert counsel may dictate. No existing body or department could think of embarking upon such a programme on top of its routine work. The creation of a new authority is therefore necessary. Such an authority would most aptly be named an Improvement Commission, with highly qualified officials of its own and a free hand within broad lines indicated by the Government, and within the expenditure of such an amount as could be placed at their disposal. That amount would necessarily have to be a very large one, and whence it should come is a topic which will be dealt with in the succeeding article. The members of the Commission should be progressive minded men, men of ideas and imagination, capable of studying big problems on big lines and with the courage to apply their conclusions. And no "old fogies." Let the young men have their chance. They cannot possibly do worse than do nothing.

[The fourth and concluding article of this series, specially written for the Hongkong Telegraph, will appear on Thursday.]

A Chinese employed as a paint-scraper at the Taikoo Dockyard fell into one of the drydocks and was killed instantaneously. A Coroner's inquiry will be held to-morrow at the Magistracy.

COMPANY MEETING.

CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN & MORTGAGE CO., LTD.

The twenty-second ordinary annual meeting of the shareholders of the China Provident Loan and Mortgage Co., Ltd. was held this morning at the offices of Messrs. Shaw, Tames and Co. (general managers), Mr. W. Adamson was in the chair and amongst those present were Messrs. S. H. Dillwell, H. P. White and U. P. On (Directors), H. F. Campbell (Secretary), M. S. Northcote, A. A. Cordeiro, R. Henderson, J. Toppin, The Tsim Tai and M. A. Figueroa.

The Chairman said:—The report and accounts for 1918 have been in your hands for some days and with your permission I will take them as read. They would inform you that our net earnings for that period were \$121,508.94, practically the same as for the preceding year. This result can be taken as satisfactory in view of the fact that for three months Dutch tonnage was immobilised which naturally seriously affected our earnings. The profits shown will enable us to pay our usual dividend of 7½% place to Reserve \$25,000 and carry forward about \$2,000 more than last year. There was no great demand for money and in this direction we were in almost the same position as in 1917.

As regards our godowns, they were full all the year round, but unfortunately during the period that Dutch tonnage was immobilised stocks were stagnant which, of course, does not suit us. There is only one matter in connection with the accounts that I need refer to and that is our investments. We have come to the conclusion that in a concern such as this, money can more properly be employed in the Company's business than invested in securities, however good. We are therefore disposing of them as opportunity offers.

In regard to the future, I shall not prophesy, but I can tell you that we are at the moment well in advance of this time last year and the prospects for the next few months are equally pleasing. It is, however, well to bear in mind that this situation can be much affected by dull times later on. I now propose that the accounts as presented be adopted and passed and that we place to reserve \$35,000, pay a dividend of 7½% \$37,000, carry forward \$4,153.63. After this is seconded I shall be pleased to answer any questions shareholders may care to ask.

Mr. H. P. White seconded the adoption of the report and accounts, and the resolution was passed unanimously.

Thereafter the Consulting Committee, proposed by Mr. M. S. Northcote and seconded by Mr. A. A. Cordeiro, was unanimously approved.

The re-appointment of the auditors, Messrs. F. Maitland and H. Percy Smith, at a remuneration of \$200 each was unanimously agreed to.

Dividend warrants, said the Chairman, would be ready to-morrow.

LORD SINHA.

Calcutta, February 25.—The following extract from a letter written by Lord Sinha from the British Delegation, Paris, to Mr. J. N. Roy, in reply to the latter's message of congratulation, will be read with interest:—"I am sure you all realise that these honours are intended not so much for me personally, as for our country, and I am confident that I will have the prayers of all my countrymen that my enforced exile, though under dignified circumstances, may prove of some little service to our country."

H.M.S. CENTAUR.

TO COME TO HONGKONG.

The light cruiser Centaur, Captain Wion de M. Egerton, which has been selected for service on the China Station, is one of the twenty-four cruisers of the "C" type which came into existence during the war, though the prototype of the class was projected in the naval programme of 1914-15. The Centaur carried the flag of Rear-Admiral Sir R. Y. Tyrwhitt in the North Sea when he commanded a Light Squadron with great dash and ability. The armament, speed and displacement of the class are not given yet in the "Navy List."

Captain Egerton has been in the service since July, 1893, is an ex-torpedo officer, and saw much service in the North Sea and patrol work in 1914-18. The second in command of the Centaur is Lieutenant-Commander A. S. Harris, and the navigator, Lieutenant W. H. Gell. The Centaur was commissioned on Jan. 18 last.—L. & C. Express.

Lieutenant M. Farquhar and Lieutenant J. C. K. Woodall have been appointed to the light cruiser Centaur for service on the China Station. Several other appointments have yet to be made to the cruiser.

According to the statements made by various newspapers no ships heavier than light cruisers will be sent "East of Suez" in the future. As a matter of fact, no settlement has yet been arrived at, nor will be till after the conclusion of peace.

HOME FOOTBALL.

Matches played on February 15 resulted as follows:—

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

Heart of Mid.	2	Queen's Park	2
Morton	9	Hibernians	2
St. Mirren	2	Rangers	2
Celtic	4	Hamilton A.C.	1
Third Lanark	2	Falkirk	2
Ayr United	4	Clyde	1
Clydebank	2	Motherwell	1
Dumbarton	0	Airdrieonians	0
Patrick Thistle	4	Kilmarnock	0

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE.

Burnley	3	Blackpool	0
Bury	1	Stockport Co.	1
Everton	3	Port Vale	1
Manchester U.	1	Southport V.	3
Oldham Ath.	0	Manches. City	3
Rochdale	2	Bolton Wand.	2
Stoke	3	Liverpool	1
Preston N.E.	1	Blackburn R.	1

MIDLAND LEAGUE.

Birmingham	4	Shef. Wednes	2
Bradford City	1	Lincoln City	2
Coventry City	2	Bradford City	1
Hull City	1	Barnsley	3
Leeds City	0	Notts Forest	4
Notts County	6	Huddersfield	2
Rotherham C.	2	Grimsby Town	0
Sheffield Un.	1	Leicester F.	0

LONDON COMBINATION.

Arsenal	4	Clapton Or	0
Crystal Pal.	1	Chelsea	0
Q.P. Rangers	7	Tottenham H.	1
Fulham	3	Brentford	2
Millwall Ath.	2	West Ham Un.	2

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

	P	W	L	D	Goals	For	Ag.	Pts.
Rangers	27	20	3	4	64	13	44	44
Celtic	26	19	2	5	53	19	43	43
Morton	28	16	4	8	69	32	40	40
Partick	27	14	8	5	51	36	33	33
Thistle	27	11	7	9	40	31	31	31
Motherwell	28	13	10	5	56	48	31	31
Ayr United	28	12	10	6	54	50	30	30
Kilmarnock	28	12	10	6	54	50	30	30
Heart of Mid.	26	11	9	6	42	39	28	28
Queen's Park	25	10	10	5	46	44	25	25
Third Lanark	27	9	11	7	48	46	25	25
St. Mirren	27	7	10	10	32	47	24	24
Clydebank	25	8	10	8	40	51	24	24
Hamilton	27	8	14	5	40	51	24	24
Acad.	27	8	14	5	40	51	24	24
Airdrieonians	27	5	12	10	31	41	20	20
Clyde	27	7	14	6	40	54	20	20
Falkirk	28	6	15	7	40	55	19	19
Dumbarton	25	3	14	8	19	44	14	14
Hibernians	26	4	20	2	21	74	10	10

NOTICES.

PEACE CELEBRATIONS.

JAPANESE RED LANTERNS.

DIAMETER

	8 inches	11½ inches
Per Case of 500	\$35.00	\$50.00
Per 100	7.50	11.00
Per dozen	1.00	1.25

CANDLES, to burn about five hours.

can be supplied at \$2.40 per 100.

PRICES NETT—CASH ON DELIVERY.

PLACE YOUR ORDERS EARLY.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

NOTICE.

NOTICE.

NOTICE.—It is requested that during alterations to the road in Upper Albert Road outside Government House, motor vehicles will not use this Road for downward journeys. They should use Pokfulam Road and Queen's Road.

CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.
Hongkong, 27th March, 1919.

HONGKONG DOG-CAT-POULTRY

AND PIGEON SHOW 1919.

A show in connection with the above will be held (by kind permission of the Stewards, Hongkong Jockey Club) within their enclosure, Happy Valley, on Saturday, the 12th April, 1919.

Entry forms containing full particulars may be obtained on application to the undersigned.

G. W. GEGG.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

c/o Messrs. Fugate & Hoyle.

PREVENT DISEASE

"INSECTOX"

IMPROVED "HEPPELL'S FLY SPRAY."

SUPPRESSES FLIES, MOSQUITOES & OTHER INSECT DISEASE CARRIERS.

"INSECTOX OUTFITS" consisting of a bottle of Insectox and a bottle of Household Insectox.

Price \$4.00.

"HOUSEHOLD INSECTOX"

Bottle, for use in home, hospital, hotel, etc.

Price \$1.30 per tin.

"CRUDE INSECTOX"

Bottle, extra strong, for use in camp, stable, factory, coolie quarters, etc.

Price \$1.30 per tin.

"HORTICULTURAL INSECTOX"

Bottle, for spraying plants infested with greenfly, etc. Harmless to plant life.

Price 70c. per tin.

On sale at Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Hongkong & Kowloon, Baidly Co., Hongkong, and leading stores.

FRANK SMITH & CO., Sole Agents.

NOTICE.

NOTICE.

PARTICULARS and CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on Monday, the 7th day of April, 1918, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of Crown Land at Shauiwan in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of the Lot	Boundary Measurements	Area in Acres	Area in Square Feet	Annual Rent	Upset Price
1	100 ft. by 100 ft.	2.28	19,600	£100	£100

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NOTICE.

Maison Lily

Just received an assortment

New Shaw Hats.

Linen, Tique, Plain

and Flowered Ties.

Savannah Building,

Hongkong.

THEATRE ROYAL

HONGKONG.

A. D. C.

IN THE MUSICAL PLAY

"PINKIE & THE FAIRIES"

FOR GROWN UPS AND CHILDREN

REQUEST MATINEE

Wednesday, 2nd April, at 4.30 p.m.

Price \$3.

Children half price to Matinee.

Booking at MOUTRIE'S.

THEATRE ROYAL

HONGKONG.

A. D. C.

POPULAR MATINEE

AT

POPULAR PRICES

Owing to the continued demand for further performances of

"PINKIE & THE FAIRIES"

there will be a

MATINEE

on THURSDAY, 3rd April, at 4.30 p.m.,

which will be positively the Final Performance.

Prices: Dress Circle and Stalls \$2

Pit and Gallery \$1

Children half price.

Booking at MOUTRIE'S.

THE HONGKONG SCHOOL OF MOTORING.

APPLICATIONS FROM STUDENTS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED.

The SCHOOL has accommodation for 200 PUPILS, the syllabus including courses for MECHANICS and DRIVING.

SPECIAL FACILITIES are offered to persons desirous of becoming CHAUFFEURS and not at the moment having means at their disposal for their course.

Works and school—Shauiwan Office—4 Queen's Road Central

OVERLAND ELGIN DRAGON MOTOR CAR CO. HUDSON

A NEW SHIPMENT OF CHANDLER, ELGIN & OVERLAND CARS

IS TO HAND.

PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS CORDIALLY INVITED TO INSPECT

NEW STOCKS OF STERLING TYRES HAVE ARRIVED.

CARS FOR HIRE

NOTICES.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society will be held at the registered office of the Society, Queen's Building, Hongkong, on Thursday the 10th day of April, 1919, at 12 o'clock noon, when the subjoined resolutions will be proposed as extraordinary resolutions.

1. That the nominal silver capital of the Society as existing when this resolution is confirmed as a special resolution be converted into sterling and that such capital as converted be increased beyond the sterling equivalent of such silver capital when such conversion takes place to the sum of £2,000,000 Sterling divided into 200,000 shares of the nominal value of £10 each.
2. That each of the issued silver shares of the Society of the nominal value of £250 each with the sum of \$100 paid up thereon be converted into five shares of the nominal value of £10 each with the sterling equivalent of £30 Hongkong currency at the opening T.T. rate of exchange on the date this resolution is confirmed as a special resolution credited as paid up thereon and accordingly that 80,000 shares out of 200,000 shares of the nominal value of £10 each constituting the capital of the Society so converted and increased be distributed by the Board to the persons who are registered as shareholders of the Society on the date this resolution is confirmed as a special resolution in exchange for the silver shares then held by them.
3. That the Articles of Association be altered in manner following namely:—

By the insertion after Article No. 107 of the following Article.

- "107 (a). The Board may employ the funds of the Society which have been established pursuant to the provisions of Article 107 or any of them or any portion thereof (and that whether such funds are for any special purpose or not) in or for all or any of the following purposes, that is to say, in meeting contingencies, in equalizing dividends, in paying special dividends or bonuses, in repaying, improving and maintaining any of the property of the Society, or otherwise in the business of the Society, and in or for such other purposes as the Board shall in its discretion think conducive to the interests of the Society and in regard to any such employment as aforesaid the Board shall not be bound to keep such funds separate from the other assets."

By the insertion of the following Articles after Article No. 108.

- "108 (a). Any general meeting at which a dividend or bonus is declared or sanctioned may make a call on the members of such amount as the meeting fixes but so that the call on each member shall not exceed the dividend or bonus payable to him and so that notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 10, 20 and 21 the call may be payable at the same time as the dividend or bonus and the dividend or bonus may, if so arranged between the Society and the member, be set off against the call. The making of a call under this Article shall be deemed ordinary business of an ordinary general meeting which declares a dividend.
- (2). After any resolution has been passed under the provisions of paragraph (1) of this Article the Board may arrange on behalf of the Society for the dividend or bonus to be set off against the call by authorizing any person on behalf of the members from whom such call is due to enter into an Agreement with the Society providing for such dividend or bonus to be set off against such call and any Agreement made under such authority shall be effective.
- (3). It shall be no objection to any resolution made under paragraph (1) of this Article or to any call or arrangement made under paragraph (2) of this Article if such resolution or call or arrangement was made at the meeting at which the resolution introducing this Article and Article 107 (a) was confirmed as a special resolution provided that due notice of the intention to propose such first mentioned resolution and to declare such dividend or bonus or to make such call shall have been given prior to the Confirmatory meeting aforesaid.
- RATE OF EXCHANGE FOR DIVIDENDS PAYABLE IN HONGKONG.
- (b). Dividends may be paid in Hongkong currency at such rate of exchange as the General Meeting declaring or sanctioning the same or, in the case of interim dividends, as the Board may determine."

Should the above resolutions be passed by the requisite majority they will be submitted for confirmation as special resolutions to a second extraordinary meeting which will be subsequently convened.

Dated the 28th day of March, 1919.

By Order of the Board,
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
General Manager.

BRITISH TRADERS INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company will be held at the registered office of the Company, Queen's Building, Hongkong, on Thursday, the 10th day of April, 1919, at 5 o'clock p.m., when the subjoined resolutions will be proposed as extraordinary resolutions.

1. That the nominal silver capital of the Company as existing when this resolution is confirmed as a special resolution be converted into sterling and that such capital as converted be increased beyond the sterling equivalent of such silver capital when such conversion takes place to the sum of £1,000,000 Sterling divided into 200,000 shares of the nominal value of £5 each.
2. That each of the issued silver shares of the Company of the nominal value of £125 each with the sum of £25.00 paid up thereon be converted into three shares and two-fifths of one share of the nominal value of £5 each with the sterling equivalent of £7.50 Hongkong currency at the opening T.T. rate of exchange on the date this resolution is confirmed as a special resolution credited as paid up thereon and accordingly that 80,000 shares out of the 200,000 shares of the nominal value of £5 each constituting the capital of the Company so converted and increased be distributed by the Board to the persons who are registered as shareholders of the Company on the date this resolution is confirmed as a special resolution in exchange for the silver shares then held by them.
3. That the Articles of Association be altered in manner following, namely:—

By the insertion after Article No. 106 of the following Article.

- "106 (a). The Board may employ the funds of the Company which have been established pursuant to the provisions of Article 106 or any of them or any portion thereof (and that whether such funds are for any special purpose or not) in or for all or any of the following purposes, that is to say, in meeting contingencies, in equalizing dividends, in paying special dividends or bonuses, in repaying, improving and maintaining any of the property of the Company, or otherwise in the business of the Company, and in or for such other purposes as the Board shall in its discretion think conducive to the interests of the Company and in regard to any such employment as aforesaid the Board shall not be bound to keep such funds separate from the other assets."

By the insertion of the following Articles after Article No. 107.

- "107 (a). Any general meeting at which a dividend or bonus is declared or sanctioned may make a call on the members of such amount as the meeting fixes but so that the call on each member shall not exceed the dividend or bonus payable to him and so that notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 10, 20 and 21 the call may be payable at the same time as the dividend or bonus and the dividend or bonus may, if so arranged between the Company and the member, be set off against the call. The making of a call under this Article shall be deemed ordinary business of an ordinary general meeting which declares a dividend.
- (2). After any resolution has been passed under the provisions of paragraph (1) of this Article the Board may arrange on behalf of the Company for the dividend or bonus to be set off against the call by authorizing any person on behalf of the members from whom such call is due to enter into an Agreement with the Company providing for such dividend or bonus to be set off against such call and any Agreement made under such authority shall be effective.
- (3). It shall be no objection to any resolution made under paragraph (1) of this Article or to any call or arrangement made under paragraph (2) of this Article if such resolution or call or arrangement was made at the meeting at which the resolution introducing this Article and Article 106 (a) was confirmed as a special resolution provided that due notice of the intention to propose such first mentioned resolution and to declare such dividend or bonus or to make such call shall have been given prior to the Confirmatory meeting aforesaid.
- RATE OF EXCHANGE FOR DIVIDENDS PAYABLE IN HONGKONG.
- (b). Dividends may be paid in Hongkong currency at such rate of exchange as the General Meeting declaring or sanctioning the same or, in the case of interim dividends, as the Board may determine."

Should the above resolutions be passed by the requisite majority they will be submitted for confirmation as special resolutions to a second extraordinary meeting which will be subsequently convened.

Dated the 28th day of March, 1919.

By Order of the Board,
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
General Manager.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

WEDNESDAY, the 9th April, 1919,

commencing at 12 o'clock (noon) at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street,

(For account of the concerned) The Wreck of the S.S. Yiamsamud (337 tons net register)

As she now lies on Alligator Island (near Foochow) with all anchors, chains, gear and appurtenances, etc.

Terms: Cash on fall of hammer when the wreck will be at purchasers risk.

GEO. P. LAMBERT,
Auctioneer.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

WEDNESDAY, the 2nd April, 1919,

commencing at 11 a.m. (for account of the concerned) at the China Provident Loan & Mortgage Co's godown, West Point

About 4100 sacks "Blue Rifle Brand" Australian Flour. And About 900 sacks "Blue Rifle Brand" Australian Flour.

(stored in No. 23 godown of the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co. Ltd., Kowloon.)

Terms:—Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMBERT,
Auctioneer.

CANADIAN PACIFIC OCEAN SERVICES, LIMITED.

NOTICE.—Owing to Military Requisition, the Company regretfully announce the necessary cancellation of passage bookings made for the following sailings:

"MONTEAGLE" 5th April
"EMPEROR OF RUSSIA" 1st May
"EMPEROR OF JAPAN" 14th May
"EMPEROR OF ASIA" 29th May

Refund in full of all passage money paid will be made on application to

P. D. SUTHERLAND
General Agent, Passenger Dept.

PEAK TRAMWAYS CO., LTD.

TIME TABLE.		
WEEK DAYS.		
7.00 a.m.	to 8.00 a.m.	Every 15 min.
8.00	" to 9.30	" 15 min.
10.30	" to 11.00	" 15 min.
11.30	" to 12.45 p.m.	" 15 min.
12.45 p.m.	to 1.15	" 10 min.
1.15	" to 1.45	" 15 min.
1.45	" to 2.15	" 15 min.
2.15	" to 2.30	" 15 min.
2.30	" to 3.00	" 15 min.
3.00	" to 4.00	" 15 min.

REMEMBER
TEL. No. 977
FOR

MERCURY GARAGE

THE MOST
MODERN
CARS IN
TOWN.

STATE GOVERNED BY
BUSINESS MEN.

WHAT IS BEING EFFECTED
IN NORTH BORNEO.

INTERESTING CHAT WITH
ITS GOVERNOR.

["Hongkong Telegraph" Special.]

A notable visitor to Hongkong recently was H. E. Mr. A. C. Pearson, the Governor of British North Borneo. We took the opportunity of interviewing him—purely from an inquisitiveness to know how business men administer a State. His reply is universally acknowledged to be stripped of business acumen. The two seldom go hand-in-hand. A State administered by business men! It is incongruous, but it exists in a strip of territory 31,000 square miles—equal to Scotland—which is known as British North Borneo. The British North Borneo Company, which has been incorporated by Royal Charter in November, 1881, is a limited company with a Board of Directors in London. The Chairman of the Chartered Company is the Rt. Hon. Sir West Ridgeway, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., K.C.S.I., who was Governor of Ceylon and also Under-Secretary for Ireland. He is a very able administrator and his name in Ceylon is still talked about. The Chartered Company does not trade. Its functions are purely confined to administration, the administration being practically on the lines of a Crown Colony. Although the Company does not trade, it facilitates commerce and helps people to develop the country.

The appointment of the Governor of North Borneo is subject to the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The Governor is not responsible to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, but to the Board of Directors of the Chartered Company.

"Has there been any conflict between the Secretary of State and the Directors?" asked the interviewer.

"There has been absolutely no conflict at any time. If we want to do anything in the Colony we need not consult the Secretary of State. He very rarely interferes with our internal policy."

"Then where does the authority of the Secretary of State for the Colonies come in?"

"North Borneo is a British Protectorate. The Secretary of State for the Colonies, no doubt, would come to our assistance if we were in trouble. In all external policies we go through the Secretary of State."

"In that case the Company is vested with vast powers. How do you administer justice? In the case of a man found guilty of murder, where does the appeal lie?"

"If a man is found guilty his case is sent up for revision by two High Court Judges. It then goes to the Governor for executive revision or for final decision as to whether the death sentence is to be carried out or not. There is no appeal outside the country in criminal cases. The Governor is the Chief Justice as well. He has a dual position. In civil matters there is an appeal to the Privy Council in certain cases. There has not been an appeal so far."

"How does this system work? Under the circumstances the Governor must not only be an administrator but also a lawyer?"

"The administrative machine works very smoothly. The

Governor must have a knowledge of law. We have our own Judicial Commissioner, who has had long experience in England as a barrister. The country is divided into five parts. Each has a Resident and a varying number of District Officers under him. District Officers, as is the case in Hongkong, I believe, are magistrates.

"What code of laws do you have in North Borneo?"

"We have adopted the Indian Penal Code and the Procedure Codes. These have been supplemented by a large number of local ordinances."

"Why has the North Borneo Company shown special partiality for Indian law?" asked the interviewer.

"It suits the natives of the country admirably."

"There are not many chartered companies that administer territories at the present time?" enquired the writer.

"The only other one is the Chartered Company of South Africa."

"I presume that the Company has created a number of departments for the proper administration of the country, just like in any British Colony?" asserted our representative.

"Just so. We have a number of departments such as Customs, Survey, Forestry, Agriculture, Post and Telegraphs, Prisons, Education, Land Office, P. W. D., and a host of others."

"We have a Government Secretary. In fact there are 84 European officers of the Government. The appointment of the Governor of British North Borneo is in definite."

"As a matter of fact, I have been 22 years in the service and started as a cadet. The appointment of the Governor is made by the Board of Directors at Home. There are 600 to 700 Europeans, including Government officers, in the country."

"Does the Secretary of State for the Colonies dictate your policy? Have you to seek his sanction for any legislation?" queried the writer.

"He has not expressed any wish for a definite policy. We are at all times very pleased to carry out his wishes immediately."

"Have you a publicity department for advertising British North Borneo to attract settlers and capital?"

"We have no such system, and do not contemplate it."

"What is your chief interest in Hongkong?" asked our representative.

"Our chief interest in Hongkong is getting Chinese settlers down to Borneo. The Hakkas are excellent settlers and we have several tens of thousands. They make vegetable gardens just outside the towns and the women bring the vegetables and fruits to the markets. As a general rule the men are carpenters, while the women are quite ready to do anything. In fact they command wages as much as a man. Some of the inhabitants of Borneo are lazy. The Dusuns are our industrious race. Money is no object to them. They squander what they get. Further in the interior there is a tribe called the Murut. They are half civilised. Their work is chiefly in connection with camphor, rattan, gattaparcha, etc. A good deal of these jungle produce are exported to Hongkong. These items are a minor part of the trade. The Chinese are showing an increasing tendency to accept work on the rubber plantations. We maintain law and order with a police force of 800—200 Indians and 600 natives of the country."

"Is there much scope for the development of the trade between Hongkong and British North

Borneo?" interrogated our representative.

"We are still in the very early stages of development. We export a certain amount of produce, rattan, etc. Our timber trade was very badly hit by the war on account of the shortage of shipping but it was partly set off by the fact that Exchange helped us tremendously. We cut in 1917 1,275,000 cubic feet of timber, and of these 800,000 cubic feet were not exported on account of the shortage of ships. We recently established a Forest Department which is doing very valuable work and we hope to develop the forests commercially."

"Isn't your rubber industry a thriving one?"

"We got eventually the whole of our rubber away, about 5½ million lbs. We also got away the whole of our tobacco crop. The extension of our rubber industry can be gauged by these figures:—1914, 1½ million lbs.; 1915, 2½ million lbs.; 1916, 4½ million lbs.; 1917, 5½ million lbs. In 1918, I imagine, the figures will be the same because a number of plantations fell into the scheme of restriction proposed by the London Rubber Growers' Association. We export 70,000 to 80,000 tons of coal every year."

"What are the commercial prospects in the future?"

"When peace is eventually signed, I imagine the commercial expansion will be rapid. We hope to start some coconut oil mills. A larger area under coconuts will be coming into bearing in the next few years. There is a very poor market at present for coconuts and coconuts on account of the lack of bottoms. In fact all bulky cargo have suffered severely through the war. Our rubber is exported to England through Singapore and our tobacco to Holland. The bulk of our exports goes through Singapore. There has been a large industrial expansion in the manufacture of sugar, and that practically closed down in 1918. It was all sold in Singapore. When I left, the market recovered a bit and all the Chinese firms were beginning to work again."

"Is the State in a prosperous condition?"

"Yes. In spite of the war, the volume of trade has increased each year. In 1914 and 1915 the trade dropped very slightly. In 1916 it came up with the 1913 figure and in 1917 and 1918 it showed an increase. The chief effect of the war on the balance is in favour of imports rather slightly. The exports fell off simply for lack of ships."

"How did you deal with your Germans?"

"Our Germans were interned at the beginning of the war and sent away with the Singapore Germans to Australia. As far as I know they are still there. We had a few Germans."

"Have you any trouble with the subject races or the Dutch on the frontier?"

"We have practically no trouble with our subjects. We had a little trouble with a tribe far away on the Dutch border at the beginning of the war. It was crushed. The whole population, both indigenous and alien, behaved themselves very well during the war."

"What return is the North Borneo Company paying its shareholders?"

"It has gradually increased in the early days from one per cent. to 4 and ½ per cent. The revenue of the country is about 2½ million Singapore dollars and the expenditure varies with the revenue, but instead, as you have in this Colony loans, the capital of the Company was subscribed in London."

"How is your educational system worked?" asked our representative.

"In education there are no Government Schools but State-aided schools. Most of these schools are conducted by Roman Catholic and Church of England Missions."

"Do you devote much attention to the scientific development of cereals, etc?"

"We have an agricultural department, which is a small one at present. Its chief work is to assist the agriculturist. We have a mycologist. He has found it

FURS & CARPETS.

Save your FURS & CARPETS by
storing them in our COLD STORES
for the SUMMER MONTHS.

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THE DAIRY FARM ICE & COLD STORAGE
CO., LTD.

GERIN, DREVARD & CO.

ST. GEORGE'S BUILDINGS, Tel. 114.

AND AT CANTON.

COPPER QUEEN BELTING

AND

SKOOKUM PACKING.

DYES.

THOMAS W. SIMMONS & CO.

INC. IN U.S.A.

YORK BUILDINGS, HONGKONG.

TO-DAY'S NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

OBSURED GLASSES ARE WORSE THAN NO GLASSES AT ALL.

There is nothing so annoying to the wearer of glasses than to have the vision periodically blurred by moisture. For the prevention of this we can confidently recommend

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THE NEW, PATENTED, CHEMICAL CLOTH

After using "LAZARITE" we guarantee that your glasses will not "steam" when at TENNIS, GOLFING, RIFLE SHOOTING, or DRINKING and EATING anything HOT.

STEAM, FOG, or PERSPIRATION do not affect the lenses after applying the "LAZARITE" cloth.

A Test Invited.

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difficult to carry out the whole work. We hope to increase this establishment. Agriculture is now beyond its primitive state, and certain of the more advanced tribes use the plough and harrow."

"Is the country malarious?" enquired the writer.

"Malaria is not prevalent. Certain parts are unhealthy. On the whole the country is remarkably healthy."

"In a State like North Borneo are you permitted to mint your own currency?" asked our representative.

"We do not mint silver. We have our own note issue, based on the Singapore currency. We mint a certain amount of copper and nickel but not much. We buy the currency of Singapore and circulate it in the country."

"But, wouldn't it be advantageous to have your own currency?"

"We have always had the Singapore currency, so have Labuan; a Crown Colony off the North Borneo Coast. As far as I am concerned, I favour it. There are many arguments, for and against. It has been very satisfactory and I do not think we will change it."

"Can you say anything of the future of your state?"

"Twenty years hence North Borneo will surprise every one. We hope to start a programme of road construction as soon as we get engineers and machinery. We will also extend our railways. We have 120 miles of metre-gauge railways. The Raja of Sarawak's territory adjoins ours. The Raja of Sarawak, as you know, is an Englishman. His territory is larger, about 50,000 square miles. Five-sixths of the island belongs to the Dutch and the

balance of one-sixth to the Chartered Company, the Raja of Sarawak and the Protected State of Brunei."

KOREAN SCHOOL GIRLS DEFIANT.

On a recent Monday afternoon, 25 girl students belonging to the Housaton College, an American mission school, in Seoul, started a demonstrative procession, singing Christian hymns, their parade being later participated in by over 1,000 demonstrators. The police ordered the leaders to disperse but the order was ignored. The authorities then asked the principal of the school to stop the demonstration, the principal also rejecting the request.

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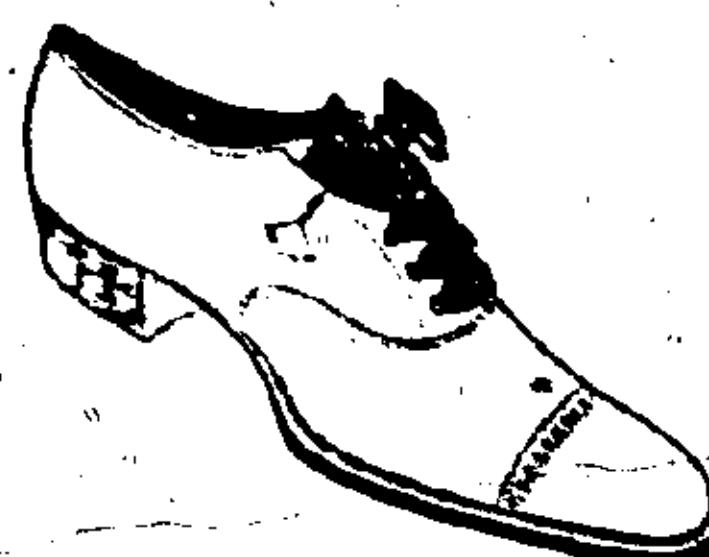
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NOTICES

FOOTWEAR THAT SATISFIES

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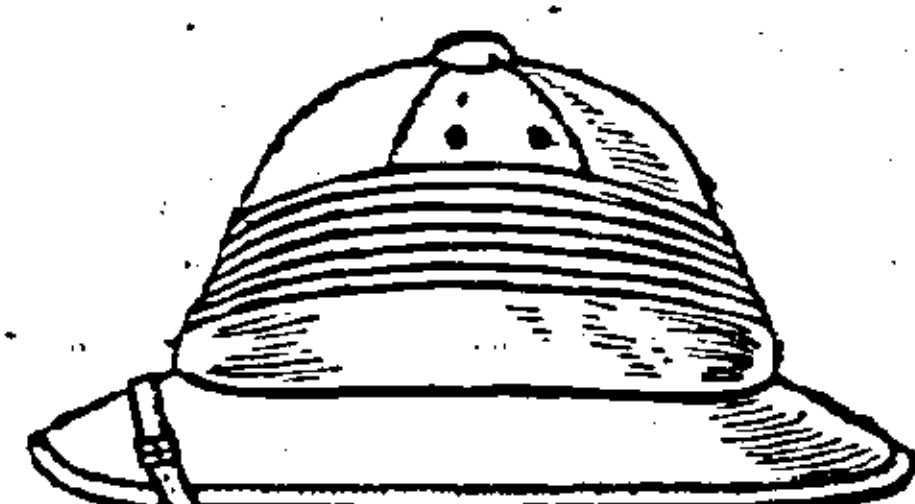
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